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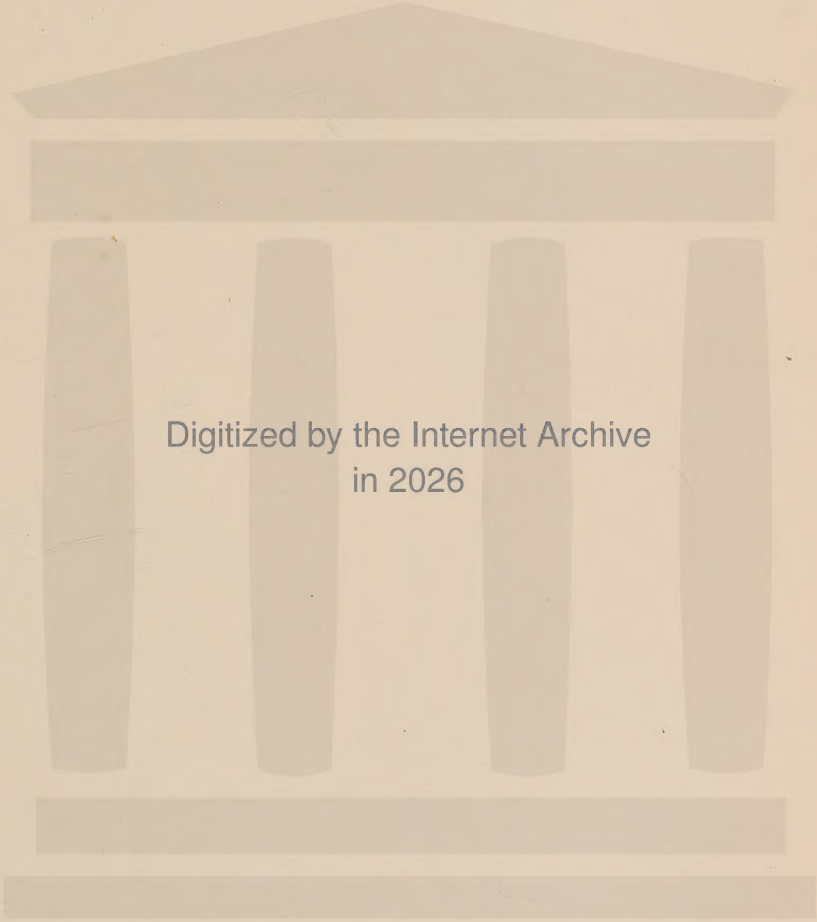

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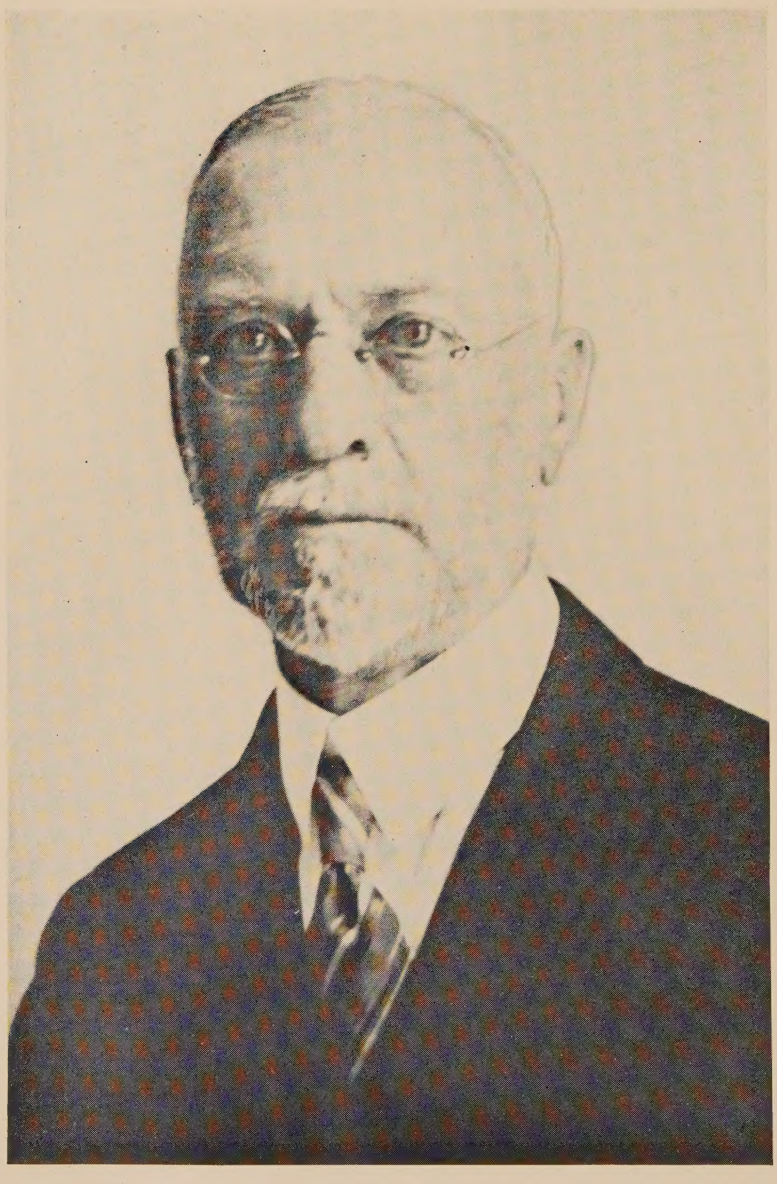

J. Franklin Jameson

The Interest of J. Franklin Jameson in the National Archives: 1908-1934[1]

By FRED SHELLEY

The Library of Congress

I

THE recently resigned Archivist of the United States, Dr. Buck, was once heard to remark that while nearly every other agency had a historical staff attached to it during the war years, the National Archives had no historian for those as well as for earlier years. It ought to be clearly stated that its historian, even unofficially, does not here present himself. There is here purported to be a delineation of the interest of J. Franklin Jameson in the creation of the National Archives, not a formal or informal history of the agency, nor (save incidentally) of the interests of other persons in the Archives, nor one of those rather frightening lists of all the bills ever introduced in Congress concerning archives, nor a step by step architectural account of the construction of the building in which the organization has grown to its present stature. The interest of one man, his activities, and the results of his endeavors are central to these attentions. Yet such was the endless persistence of this man, and such his selfless perseverance, that accounting for his interest tells most of the whole story.

[1] These lines are based almost exclusively on the personal letters of Dr. Jameson. The Jameson papers are now housed in the building of the Carnegie Institution of Washington and are in the custody of Dr. Leo F. Stock (co-executor, with Jameson's son, of the Jameson estate). Dr. Stock permitted a full and free use of the pertinent files, and, except where otherwise stated, citations are to materials in the Jameson papers. Other sources of information used are the Records of the Advisory Committee on the National Archives, of the Public Buildings Administration, and of the Fine Arts Commission (all in the National Archives); the collection of reproductions and extracts from many sources of material relating to the Federal archives, organized chronologically in a set of loose-leaf binders by P. S. Flippin (in the National Archives library); and such published materials as the Annual Reports of the American Historical Association. Dr. Stock, in addition to granting access to the papers, graciously answered many questions and generously volunteered much information. Dr. Herbert Putnam, Librarian Emeritus of Congress, provided a generous store of background detail helpful in understanding the Jameson personality. Dr. Waldo G. Leland, Director Emeritus of the American Council of Learned Societies, read the first draft and offered much valuable criticism and explanation. Dr. Solon J. Buck, lately Archivist of the United States and presently Chief of the Division of Manuscripts in the Library of Congress, read the article and thoughtfully gave pertinent suggestions from his intimate relationships with the National Archives.

It will not be surprising to Jameson's colleagues and compeers to learn the details by which he became the successful prime mover in the National Archives movement. Many younger students, however, may struggle to identify his name. Perhaps they recall the brilliant essay on the American Revolution,[2] or maybe they have seen in bibliographies his little volume on American historiography.[3] Possibly they will want to learn more of the historian who began his career as a student of Herbert B. Adams, who taught at Johns Hopkins himself as well as at Brown and the University of Chicago, who for nearly a quarter century directed a dynamic program of creative historical scholarship at the Carnegie Institution of Washington, who was a charter member and a president of the American Historical Association and long editor of its *Review*, and who closed his career as Chief of the Division of Manuscripts and incumbent of the Chair of American History in the Library of Congress.[4] Inquiries will demonstrate to them that this man, while he did not build his career around a great professorship or a great history, imprinted the profession of history profoundly.

Jameson was never able to devote more than a fraction of his time to this project, but, having begun, he continued to work with New England tenacity until the agency was established and had a competent head ready to enter on his duties.

II

A special trait of the American character is revealed in the circumstances in which a great building is erected — and then the agency meant to fill it is created, thrives, and comes to the proportions and responsibilities required of it. Other institutions which were tagged in the eyes of politicians and populace as "cultural" or "desirable but not mandatory" shared similar stages of growth. Notably, the Library of Congress, though already in existence, really grew into its potentialities in its fine building.

The earliest appeals for a "Hall of Records" came from administrative officers who hoped for no more than a building in which there would be large storage spaces. This thinking persisted and grew stronger as records became insistently more nu-

[2] *The American Revolution Considered as a Social Movement* (1926).

[3] *The History of Historical Writing in America* (1891).

[4] A life of Jameson remains to be written. Brief accounts can be found in *Who Was Who* and the *American Historical Review* for January 1938 (pp. 243-252). A selection of his correspondence with James Bryce, edited by Leo F. Stock, appeared in the *American Historical Review* for January 1945 (pp. 261-298); portions of the Woodrow Wilson-Jameson and the Albert J. Beveridge-Jameson correspondences are scheduled for early publication, the last in the *Mississippi Valley Historical Review*.

merous.[4a] In the 1890's preliminary plans for such a structure were actually drawn.[5] In 1903 a bill was enacted into law which authorized the building and provided for the purchase of a site.[6] The site (where the Federal Works Agency is now located) was purchased, but, as Senator Elihu Root said a few years later, "Nobody seemed to take interest enough in the subject to have the building put up after the land was bought."[7]

One man had, however, taken an interest in the matter in those years, although his efforts proved ineffectual. Lothrop Withington, of Newburyport, Massachusetts, discussed the question with Senator George Hoar.[8] Hoar, long a friend to history and to scholarship, shortly before his death suggested that Withington apply to Senator Henry C. Lodge for active aid. Lodge subsequently introduced a bill[9] which had been ". . . carefully adapted by me from the act of the first of Victoria which established the magnificent glory of historic scholarship in London."[10] The bill was pigeonholed by Senator George P. Wetmore of Rhode Island, the chairman of the Joint Committee on the Library, to whose committee it had been referred. Such had been, Withington said, the fate of many similar bills. He thought Wetmore was not personally opposed to a Hall of Records but deferred to the opposition of Ainsworth R. Spofford, long the Librarian of Congress and in his last years Chief Assistant Librarian to John R. Young and Herbert Putnam. Withington acknowledged charitably but honestly the many great services of Spofford. That gentleman, Withington said, had failings as do all men. He had also a ". . . mania for retaining in his hand a monoply of all literary matters in Washington."[11] His was the sole discordant voice in a chorus of approval. Such men as Worthington C. Ford, Gaillard Hunt,[12] and Herbert Putnam did not share Spofford's view. The Librarian (Putnam) did not want, Withington felt, to "controvert" the former librarian while he lived.

[4a] Mr. Meredith Colket courteously called attention to the Plan of 1901 which provided for a "Hall of Records" at the exact location finally used. *See* 56th Congress, 2d Session, *Senate Document 94.*

[5] 55th Congress, 2d Session, *House Document No. 226.*

[6] Act of 3 March 1903 (*Public No. 156*).

[7] Root to Jameson, 26 May 1911.

[8] Withington to Editor of *The Nation*, 2 February 1911, printed in the issue of 16 February 1911.

[9] S-6728, 59th Congress, 2d Session.

[10] Withington to Editor, *op. cit.*

[11] *Ibid.*

[12] Withington was not certain of Hunt's stand, which, of course, was favorable.

Withington saw a Hall of Records not rigidly limited to official records but free to encompass early colonial records and quite probably historical manuscripts. This was understandable in one familiar with the manner in which states and many foreign governments handled archives. His plans came to nought and Withington was lost when the *Lusitania* went down.[13]

It may be significant that Jameson began to work seriously in the matter in the same year that Spofford died (1908). Any direct connection is to be doubted. Perhaps it is only coincidental that a great opponent left the scene in the same year that a great proponent entered.

III

Jameson had begun to be aware of the deficiencies in the published records of the nation as early as his Johns Hopkins days. He offered to edit the copy of the Records of the Virginia Company of London which William Stith had used, Thomas Jefferson had aquired, Ebenezer Hazard had read, and all competent persons knew to be of inestimable value to American history.[14] He served as first chairman of the Historical Manuscripts Commission of the American Historical Association, and was long interested in the Association's Public Archives Commission. When he came to Washington in 1905 to assume the directorship of the Department of Historical Research in the Carnegie Institution of Washington, Jameson had the fullest opportunity to learn the shocking conditions which attended the archives of the United States. The famous *Guide* of Van Tyne and Leland explored, documented, and publicized these amazing conditions.[15] From his interest in the publications of archives it was the briefest step to the realization that the sources must first be physically safe-guarded before they could be intellectually exploited. The occasional and sporadic efforts of administrators in the Government and historians out of it had, for whatever reasons, not succeeded. Characteristically, Jameson set about doing a very necessary but arduous task. He did not lose sight of the publications program which had long occupied his attention. That provision in the Act of 1934 is a Jameson legacy, and it is not his fault if it was impossible to prevent a moribund publications commission.

[13] Henry C. Lodge to Jameson, 12 May 1915.

[14] Susan M. Kingsbury (ed.): *The Records of the Virginia Company of London* (4 vol., 1906-1935), I, 6-7 (the preface by Herbert L. Osgood).

[15] Van Tyne, Claude H., and Waldo G. Leland: *Guide to the Archives of the Government of the United States, in Washington* (1904).

In 1908 he took the "movement" where he found it. He understood that chief clerks and old agencies were jealous of their prerogatives, and he transformed the desire for mere dead space into pressure for a situation in which intellectual control of large groups of records could be achieved. He organized the movement, directed a steady stream of propaganda in its favor, instructed Members of Congress in the need of a record office, saw legislation which provided for the building, and had the satisfaction to know before he died that the lusty young agency he had so decisively helped create was rapidly achieving the promise he had foreseen.

IV

In the summer of 1907 Jameson talked with Theodore Roosevelt about the proposed commission on a documentary historical publication, taking the occasion to suggest the possibility of putting a recommendation for a Hall of Records in the annual message.[16]

I judge [Jameson wrote Putnam] that he thought it a hardly large enough matter to have the thing done. I presume that this is a right judgment, though it seemed to me possible that a movement in which several departments were partially interested and none intensely might fail of success unless an impetus were given from some quarter central to them all. What little I have any notion of doing about the matter may be seen from my letter[17] of which you apparently have a copy. Meantime I am very glad to know of your own attitude with regard to the matter. It is exactly what I had supposed to be the correct view, that there is no conflict at all between the desirability of gathering into the Library of Congress as much as it cares to house of those manuscript materials which are primarily historical and the necessity (and utility to historical scholars incidentally) of providing a better storehouse for the main masses of administrative papers.[18]

In a subsequent interview with the President on the 11th of December 1907 Jameson urged the issuance of an executive order which would grant general entrance to various archival depositories for properly accredited Carnegie agents.[19] He seized this occasion, too, to raise the question whether the time had not come when action was desirable toward construction of an archives[20] building.[21]

[16] Jameson to Herbert Putnam, 24 December 1907.

[17] See below, Jameson to Theodore Roosevelt, 12 December 1907.

[18] Jameson to Herbert Putnam, 24 December 1907.

[19] Jameson to Roosevelt, 12 December 1907.

[20] Jameson always used the term in the singular, a delightful idiosyncrasy he shared with Hilary Jenkinson. In deference to widely established and otherwise unchallenged usage (except in direct quotes) the term "archives" is used here.

[21] A second letter, Jameson to Roosevelt, 12 December 1907.

Such a building, he told President Roosevelt, could provide protection from fire and permit examination for purposes of official business and for historical research. The action of the Secretary of the Treasury in 1902 was mentioned. A site had even been selected, Jameson reminded the President, adding that . . .

I understood you to agree that the erection of a suitable building is a desirable thing, but to believe that it will be some time yet before such consummation can be expected. I am quite prepared to think this; but I propose to work constantly toward this end, doing from time to time what can be done, because I believe my present office calls on me to further in any way that I can any movement likely to result in great benefit to national historical interests. Without supposing that much more than a little private discussion with members of Congress which shall keep the matter before their minds can be accomplished in the present session, I took the liberty to suggest as a first step that the President might ask the heads of departments to furnish data as to the amount of space which each department would require for the storage of its present material and as to the annual growth of these requirements.[22]

The immediate purposes were achieved. On the 14th of December such an executive order was issued,[23] and the President issued requests for statements of space required for departmental records.[24] Roosevelt requested an opinion from the Librarian of Congress, and Herbert Putnam lent his powerful influence to the cause.[25] Putnam and his Chief of the Division of Manuscripts had long since been convinced that the Library itself should not become an archival depository but should restrict itself to collections of personal papers. Putnam said in this regard

. . . the President may desire to know how far the adopted function and designation of the Library of Congress, as the depositary of certain historical manuscript material in the possession of the Government, would affect the question. I would report very emphatically that this function of the Library does not in the least diminish the necessity for a building, and a very large one, for the accommodation of administrative records of the various departments which ought not to be destroyed, but which are not appropriate for the collections of the Library. There is a clear distinction between such manuscript collections as the Papers of the Continental Congress, of the Washington and

[22] *Ibid.*

[23] Wm. Loeb, Jr., to Jameson, 16 December 1907, enclosing a copy of the executive order.

[24] Oscar S. Straus, Secretary of Commerce and Labor, to Wm. Loeb, Jr., 17 December 1907, and Robert S. Oliver, Acting Secretary of War, to the President, 10 January 1908.

[25] Putnam to Secretary to President, 16 December 1907, and Putnam to Roosevelt, 20 December 1907.

other personal collections, and those records which are accumulated from the ordinary operations of the various executive departments.[26]

This was the preface to action. We may suppose that the Jameson program of education was underway in the Spring of 1908: in conversations with chief clerks, cabinet members, Senators and Representatives, historians, and any and all others who would listen intelligently. Putnam's world famous Round Table gatherings often provided felicitous occasions for this type of "education."[27] Such spade work, while tedious, fatiguing, and repetitious, was not wasted when other phases of the campaign were undertaken.

On 27 November 1908 the Executive Council of the American Historical Association formalized[28] a concern in the archives building by authorizing the appointment of a committee to take up with the President and the Congress the question of a Hall of Records in Washington ". . . intended to contain at least the overflow of public papers from the departments. . . ."[29] The committee consisted of John B. McMaster, historian of the people; Alfred T. Mahan, historian and propagandist of sea power; and Jameson, who served as chairman. It was a committee which continued for twenty years, seldom met, and was in truth the long shadow of its chairman. In its earlier years the members ratified the actions of their chairman. "Rubber-stamped" is a harsher term and out of favor but not entirely inaccurate. Jameson is remembered as once saying: "A committee of three is one in which the first member is in Europe, the second never attends meetings, and the third does the work."[30] Certainly he said:

> They appointed Admiral Mahan, Professor McMaster and myself, the last chairman. Mr. McMaster is no answerer of letters, and Admiral Mahan was remote from Washington and busy with other things so that in point of fact the action of the committee consisted in my doing whatever I could here in Washington to promote the erection of such building. The committee was practically nothing more than a convenience for me to refer to whenever there seemed to be any question of what business I, as an outsider to the government, had to meddle in the matter.[31]

When the committee became a standing committee of the Associa-

[26] Putnam to Roosevelt, 20 December 1907.

[27] Jameson to McMaster, 17 December 1908, for one example.

[28] *Annual Report of the American Historical Association for the Year 1908*, I, 30.

[29] Jameson to Mahan, 8 December 1908.

[30] Recalled by Miss Ruth Anna Fisher of the Library of Congress but not of course an exact quotation.

[31] Jameson to Henry B. Gardner, 22 January 1919.

tion (1919) and its membership was enlarged to include men like Charles Moore and Tyler Dennett the situation was somewhat altered.

In preparation for an early meeting of the committee, Jameson set in motion the preparation of a statement comprising an account of the legislation and executive recommendations in the preceding twenty or thirty years,[32] and a summary or "conspectus" of data respecting needs of departments contained in responses to the President's requests from the agency heads.[33] Such a statement of previous recommendations, he wrote Mahan, might serve as a basis for the memorial which was contemplated.

Admiral Mahan agreed to serve on the committee only if its duties did not require him to come to Washington.[34] Jameson and McMaster planned to meet at the Library of Congress in the week of the American Historical Association meeting to discuss a proper archives building.[35] After a private talk they would go to the Round Table luncheon. Waldo Leland would be present for he ". . . knows the seamy side of the archives here in Washington more extensively than anyone else. . . ."[36]

Secretaries of the Treasury had, as they were to do to the time of the completion of the building, shown more interest than other cabinet officers.[37] The incumbent in 1908, George B. Cortelyou, repeated a former recommendation on the subject.[38]

The matter developed slowly in 1909. Jameson talked with Secretary Cortelyou and Senator Scott.[39] They agreed that there was no immediate prospect for an appropriation for the building authorized six years earlier. The more likely possibility was for a provision to permit the drawing of plans. Writing to E. C. Herald, the Supervising Architect of the Treasury, Jameson pointed out that the profession of history played not so important a part as to be the main motive for an archives building . . .

> Yet history has an interest in the matter, not only in having the thing done in such a way that historical students will have good facilities for work in the

[32] "History of the Movement for A National Archive Building in Washington, D. C.," by Charles O. Paullin, 62d Congress, 2d Session, Senate Document No. 297.

[33] Jameson to Mahan, 8 December 1908.

[34] Mahan to Jameson, 10 December 1908.

[35] Jameson to Mahan, 17 December 1908, and Jameson to McMaster, 17 December 1908.

[36] Jameson to McMaster, 17 December 1908.

[37] Jameson to Mahan, 17 December 1908.

[38] *Ibid.* Also, Jameson to Cortelyou, 17 December 1908.

[39] Jameson to E. C. Herald, 27 October 1909.

new establishment, if this can be done — and I am sure it can — without any sacrifice of advantage to administrative interests.[40]

His Department of Historical Research would like to have a chance to be useful in this side of the matter. Already it has collected information, views, and plans, and one of his assistants[41] is a "repository" of information and knows most about the state of the archives in Washington.

Jameson made a strong effort to persuade William H. Taft to include in his annual message to Congress a recommendation for an archives building.[42] He reviewed briefly the story of the archives movement, emphasized the pecuniary losses the Government must suffer in the destruction of records such as those of the Treasury department, and explained the reasons for his interest in the matter.[43] It was Jameson's impression, he wrote to President Taft's secretary, that ". . . however heartily the project is approved by individual heads of executive departments, it will not be taken up in earnest by Congress until their attention is pointedly directed to the matter by the President." A public interest, he concluded, of considerable magnitude was involved and the time was "fully ripe" for the Government to take initial steps toward an archival establishment.

The letter received careful consideration by Norton and was laid before the President when he returned to Washington.[44] Norton expressed his own concern over the danger to official records and inquired if Jameson did not think that the Library of Congress might be an effective organization through which ". . . to classify, index and store these valuable records?"

Jameson's answer to the question raised by Norton is a lucid and thorough statement of his position in the matter in 1910.[45] He told Norton that since archives had so long remained in the hands of each bureau, numerous departmental objections would be raised against the outright installation of an archival organization, be it independent of or associated with any existing office. The efforts of other countries to secure better treatment of archives indicated more likelihood of success for a measure which would present

[40] *Ibid.*

[41] Mr. Leland, of course.

[42] Jameson to Charles D. Norton, Secretary to the President, 7 September 1910; Norton to Jameson, 13 September 1910; Norton to Jameson, 9 November 1910; and Jameson to Norton, 21 November 1910.

[43] Jameson to Norton, 7 September 1910.

[44] Norton to Jameson, 9 November 1910.

[45] Jameson to Norton, 21 November 1910.

. . . the thin edge of the wedge, by providing at first simply a proper archive *building*, into which departments might turn all papers which they were content to regard as not needed in their own buildings, and in which such papers might be held as deposits, subject to regulations framed by the department, with respect to storage and accessibility to officials and the public.[46]

In charge of the building would be a superintendent of distinctly limited powers while the various agencies would continue in full control of the records and the persons who serviced them. Jameson did not deceive himself that this was an ideal arrangement. He thought it necessary to wean the agencies slowly from their records. This "colonizing-out" of their papers was to be the first step. He assumed that within a few years the advantages of a ". . . centralized archive administration would be apparent and the way would be open to its creation without much friction."[47] This, he knew well, had been the history of the Public Record Office.

But if it should be found that this intermediate stage was unnecessary and legislation for an archival establishment could be immediately secured, then Jameson knew no official in Washington more competent for the task of creating it than the then Librarian of Congress. A more practical method of administration than the attempts to extend the Library of Congress to include archives would be an archival establishment separate from the Library but under the general supervision of the Librarian. This arrangement would be analagous to the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution exercising general supervision over the National Museum or the Bureau of American Ethnology.

This during the continuance in office of the present Librarian of Congress would work abundantly well. I doubt, as I have intimated, whether it is for permanent maintenance the best devise. It will not always happen that the Librarian of Congress will be a good head of an archive system; it has not always happened that the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution has been an ideal man for the headship of the National Museum or of the Bureau of American Ethnology.[48]

Early in 1911 Jameson reported to the members of his committee on the status of their assigned task.[49] Previous occasions had not seemed ripe for formal action or

. . . for anything more than occasional consultation and conference with official persons here in Washington. This sort of preparative effort I have con-

[46] *Ibid.*
[47] *Ibid.*
[48] *Ibid.*
[49] Jameson to Mahan, 10 February 1911.

tinued from time to time, without expecting any serious steps toward the erection of the building while the present cry for economy prevails and while three departmental buildings occupy positions in the line ahead of this proposed structure.[50]

With the resolution which the American Historical Association had adopted on 30 December 1910,[51] Jameson proposed to send a memorial signed by the committee which Senator Lodge and Representative Lawrence, both of Massachusetts, would present to their respective houses of Congress. "Busy with a good many other things, I have been slow to prepare the memorial . . ." but it was now drafted and ready for Mahan and McMaster to criticize and alter or sign.[52] The memorial was agreed upon by the committee. Lawrence presented it to the House on 24 February 1911 and Lodge to the Senate the next day.[53] The influencing of public opinion was all that could be hoped for by the memorial. "It will have to be reintroduced next December, and followed up the rest of my natural life or until the building is agreed upon."[54]

The architectural form the building would take was becoming a matter of more importance as questions of expense had to be answered to economy-minded Members of Congress. Jameson knew it was not sensible to attempt to make the "National Archives Building" a handsome, expensive monument worthy of a place on the south side of Pennsylvania Avenue.[54] In 1911, of course, he was still thinking of the site west of the State Department building. That land was diverted to the needs of the Geological Survey. Some resentment still lingered in Congress about the manner in which the land had been acquired and from whom.[55] If any taint of impropriety attached, it was not on the movement for the archives as such. Charles Moore agreed that an ornamental structure was not needed, and he recalled that one architect had expressed a wish for a chance to build it to see what he could do ". . . with brick and mortar and plain surfaces."[56] Jameson interested Senator Wetmore in the archival building and secured pictures of European buildings for him to see.[57] He began to inform

[50] *Ibid.* See also Jameson's modest statement at the conference of archivists, *Annual Report of the American Historical Association for the Year 1910*, 312.

[51] *Annual Report, op. cit.*, 1910, 43.

[52] Jameson to Mahan, 10 February 1911.

[53] Jameson to Mahan, 3 March 1911.

[54] Jameson to Charles Moore, 13 May 1911.

[55] Elihu Root to Jameson, 26 May 1911.

[56] Moore to Jameson, 16 May 1911.

[57] Jameson to Gaillard Hunt, 13 May 1911, and Hunt to Jameson, 15 May 1911.

Senator Miles Poindexter of Washington State of the needs of an archives building so that the Senator might be the member of the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds especially interested in that problem.[58] They had become well acquainted while Poindexter was a member of the House of Representatives.[59] In the House Committee Jameson now had Representative French of Idaho as his special friend. French invited Jameson to address the House Committee on the subject.[60]

H. R. 11850, introduced by Representative Morris Sheppard of Texas and based on a draft Jameson prepared,[61] directed the Secretary of the Treasury to prepare designs and estimates for and to report the cost of a National Archives building in Washington, D. C. The bill contemplated a building which would contain 1,500,000 cubic feet with expansion to four million cubic feet possible. Jameson thought a partial building erected to the full height would be the best plan.[62] Subsequent additions would be lateral. A conference with Bernard R. Greene convinced him that a gridiron plan or any other which would waste space in court yards in attempting to admit daylight to the stacks was unnecessary.

> The stacks may as well rely solely upon artificial light, as has been done in the new stacks of the Library of Congress, provided that the working rooms for the archivists, file clerks, and historical workers shall be placed at the outside and have daylight. Under these circumstances we could figure upon a solid cubical structure.[63]

For the one and a half million cubic foot section, Jameson estimated a ground area of 40,000 square feet to a height of 40 feet. The ultimate four million cubic foot structure would require a ground area of 100,000 to 120,000 square feet for the building to a height of 40 to 50 feet. Space for sidewalks and lawn would be additional. He held no brief for any particular site. Square 143 (where the Federal Works Agency building is now located) had been designated in 1903 for the archives, but, as has been seen, in 1911 it appeared to have been turned over to the Geological Survey. Scholars might prefer a location close to the Library of Congress, but administrative need might dictate a choice closer to the five largest

[58] Jameson to Moore, 25 May 1911.

[59] Poindexter served one term in the House (1909-1911), two in the Senate (1911-1923), and as Ambassador to Peru (1923-1928).

[60] Jameson to Moore, 25 May 1911. The hearings were held 12 May 1911.

[61] George P. Wetmore to Jameson, 28 June 1911, and Jameson to Mahan, 8 July 1911.

[62] Jameson to Wetmore, 30 June 1911.

[63] *Ibid.*

record-creating agencies — Treasury, War, Interior, Navy, and Post Office. Jameson had the novel idea — but one not without merit — that if a central heating plant and power station were established for the western buildings, it would be easy to add ". . . a system of pneumatic delivery tubes by which papers from the National Archive Building could be sent with great dispatch to any of the departmental buildings when wanted. . . ."[64]

Jameson planned that his committee should present itself to President Taft in person in the autumn of 1911 in further solicitation that the President would make mention of an archives building in the annual message.[65] When this became impractical, he wrote again to the President, urging in strong and effective terms the need of presidential action.[66] Taft made a forceful recommendation for Congressional action in his message of 2 February 1912.

Getting the sympathetic ear of both Committees on Public Buildings and Grounds was not difficult.[67] Formal hearings had been held in the House in 1911, and now new hearings were held in the Senate on 1 March 1912. Expert testimony was offered by James L. Wilmeth, chief clerk of Treasury; Fred Dennett, Commissioner, General Land Office; Rosa P. Chiles, who had written an article on archives; Gaillard Hunt, then Chief of the Division of Manuscripts in the Library of Congress, and a former and subsequent employee of the Department of State; Waldo G. Leland, Secretary of the American Historical Association; Charles M. Andrews, of Yale University; Lothrop Withington, of Newburyport, Massachusetts; and Jameson, who together related the familiar story of the deplorable state of the Federal archives.

The first victory of a solid sort was achieved in the last hours of the Taft administration. The Public Buildings Act of 4 March 1913 authorized construction of an archives building and the drawing of preliminary plans. In the ordinary course of business an appropriation for the construction of the building would have been passed in due time. But . . .

> In view of the lack of information on the subject of archives, and the pressure, particularly in the House Committee on Appropriations, to cut down appropriations in which there is no pressing political interest, it will require vigilance and influence to secure the necessary appropriations within a reasonable time.[68]

[64] *Ibid.*

[65] Jameson to Mahan, 10 February 1911; Mahan to Jameson, 21 February 1911; Jameson to Mahan, 25 February 1911; and Jameson to Mahan, 8 July 1911.

[66] Jameson to Taft, 30 October 1911.

[67] Jameson to Woodrow Wilson, 15 November 1916.

[68] Miles Poindexter to Victor H. Paltsits, 7 January 1916.

An Act of 1 August 1914 provided $5,000 to permit preparation of sketch-plans and drawings for the authorized building. "Until the plans are prepared," Jameson said, "it would be useless to ask for any further appropriations for construction; that must wait for the completion of the plans."[69] Some months were consumed in this work, and the European war was soon growing loud and deafening in its overtones.

V

Jameson encouraged and directed a steady stream of propaganda in favor of the archives building. The weight of the American Historical Association was placed first in line. Its committee of Jameson, Mahan, and McMaster, inspired attention and respect not only from the scholarly world but from the general public. At the public hearings in Congressional committees the names and influence of many important figures in scholarship and the government service lent prestige to the movement. At a high level of influence was the article, "The National Archives: A Programme," by Waldo G. Leland.[70] Similar in purpose was Jameson's address before the American Library Association.[71]

Inspired by the Leland article, Thomas M. Marshall wrote that he had called the matter to the attention of his Congressman, Joseph R. Knowland of California.[72] C. W. Alvord wrote to Members of Congress, the Governor of Illinois, and hoped to see the University of Illinois and the Mississippi Valley Historical Association take favorable stands.[73] Rosa P. Chiles wrote an article for widespread consumption, "The National Archives: Are They in Peril?" which appeared in the February 1912 *Review of Reviews*.[74] The Washington *Times* for 3 June 1914 carried a clever feature entitled, "Storing Archives in Attics and Cellars Is Declared Disgrace to the Country." Several cartoons emphasized the value of old land records, pictured two men on a raft in the dark searching for public documents in the basement of the old Corcoran Art Gallery, found "citizen rat" disagreeing with Jameson — the conditions were to his liking, and instructed a worker not to empty that trash for those were Government records. Thomas M. Owen

[69] Jameson to J. H. Moore, 18 April 1914.

[70] *The American Historical Review* for October 1912 (pp. 1-28).

[71] "The Need For A National Archive Building" in *Bulletin of the American Library Association* (Vol. VIII), 1914, (pp. 130-140).

[72] Marshall to Jameson, 18 March 1913, and Jameson to Marshall, 27 March 1913.

[73] Alvord to Jameson, 18 November 1912.

[74] See also, Jameson to Albert Shaw, 8 January 1912.

of the Alabama Department of Archives and History wrote to Senators Bankhead and Underwood[75] and offered several memorials to Congress. Reuben G. Thwaites of the Wisconsin Historical Society made contributions.[76] In North Carolina R. D. W. Conner took the time to prepare a suitable memorial for adoption by the State Literary and Historical Society.[77] St. George L. Sioussat, then corresponding secretary of the Tennessee Historical Society, brought the archives question to the attention of Tennessee Congressmen.[78] Victor H. Palstits was active in publicity for the movement.[79] Frank W. Taussig, Benjamin F. Shambaugh, Hunt, Leland, and Louis A. Simon spoke about archives and Leo F. Stock illustrated with slides the shocking conditions in Washington in a joint session of the history, economic, and political science associations presided over by Senator Poindexter.[80] The Massachusetts Historical Society made representations in a memorial signed by Charles F. Adams, its president.[81]

The occasion of the 1921 fire in the Census Office, like that of the New York archives a decade earlier, offered a fresh example of the need of an archives building.[82] Jameson wrote to Senator Francis E. Warren of Wyoming and other senators while the incident was fresh in their minds.[83] Herbert Hoover, the new Secretary of Commerce, defended himself against the "mis-impression" that he planned to destroy Government records.[84] Solon J. Buck and the Minnesota Historical Society, of which he was superintendent, actively supported the movement through many years.[85] Eben Putnam of the American Legion was a loyal supporter.[86] James B. Wilbur aided the archives movement as he helped history in many another way.[87] John C. Fitzpatrick wrote a feature article,

[75] Owen to Jameson, 11 November 1915.

[76] Thwaites to Jameson, 21 December 1912, for one example.

[77] Conner to Jameson, 18 November 1912.

[78] Sioussat to Jameson, 30 November 1915, and Jameson to Sioussat, 19 December 1915.

[79] Poindexter to Palstits, 7 January 1916.

[80] *American Historical Review* for April 1916, 443. Leland and Stock used these slides to point up a series of talks before scholarly and civic groups later that winter. Presently the slides are in the National Archives where they serve each winter to show former conditions to Dr. Ernst Posner's students.

[81] *Congressional Record*, Vol. XLIX, Pt. 1, p. 912, 62d Congress, 2d Session, Senate, 2 January 1913.

[82] Jameson to Wilfred H. Munro, 12 January 1921.

[83] Jameson to Warren, 12 January 1921, and duplicate letters to others.

[84] Hoover to Poindexter, 14 April 1921.

[85] Buck to (Mr.) Evelyn B. Baldwin, 14 November 1922.

[86] Jameson to Eben Putnam, 5 January 1923, and numerous others.

[87] Wilbur to Jameson, 22 June 1926, and others.

entitled "Priceless Documents in Nation's Archives," which appeared in the New York *Times* for 2d January 1930. The Public Archives Commission of the American Historical Association, although since 1899 principally engaged in matters relating to state archives, warmly supported every move inclined to encourage construction of the archives building.

There were many others. In addition to the persons and organizations already mentioned, such groups as the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, the Rhode Island, Texas, and Indiana historical societies, the National Fire Protection Association, the National Association of State Libraries, and the Daughters of the American Revolution aided.

VI

It is a disheartening irony that the valiant efforts of Jameson and his associates were without avail until the program to fill in the Federal Triangle was translated into mortar and stone. Whether wise administrators and harried historians would still be seeking an archival establishment, had not the Triangle been filled, is too unpleasant to contemplate. The significant fact, however, is that Jameson had solidly established the need of an archives building in the minds of effective Members of Congress. When buildings were allotted in the grand Congressional way, the efforts of Jameson and his associates had insured the inclusion of the National Archives as one of them.

The situation could hardly have seemed encouraging when the first World War began.[88] By 1913 most Senators and Representatives were aware that the building was needed. One of the periodic economy drives and the increased expenditures for preparedness for war slowed and almost halted the movement. However, with authorization for the building (in the Act of 4 March 1913) and funds for the preparation of preliminary plans (in the Act of 1 August 1914) it was possible for the Treasury department's Office of the Supervising Architect to get seriously to work. In that office the problem of a suitable building was attacked with vigor and imagination. Louis A. Simon and his associates grasped the fact that this was not another office building or a library building. Simon said:

> The problem of housing archives has the quality of drawing down on the designer a sense of responsibility to posterity that very few other problems

[88] Jameson to Albert B. Hart, 27 March 1933.

possess. A successful plan calls for a directness of treatment entirely free from strained efforts secured by the sacrifice of the real needs. Simplicity of conception will make for content in the archivist and comfort to the user, while a bad plan means anathemas visited on the memory of the designer for generations to come.[89]

The sketches were drawn to show a building containing not less than three million cubic feet of space and capable of extension to one embracing 8,900,000 cubic feet.[90] The tentative nature of the plans was even greater since the site had not been chosen. The architects did not know what surroundings there would be or such significant factors of topography as height, shape, and drainage of the land.

The Act of 1913 directed the examination of European archives. Plans of several European institutions, obtained through the State Department, revealed in ". . . careful examination . . . that the space is so far in excess of that furnished by the plans of the foreign buildings that the general arrangement in the latter could not be accepted as a guide for the building to be erected in Washington."[91] The need of simplicity and directness in the building was stressed in these early plans. A large reading room and radiating stacks, so convenient in libraries, were impractical in an archives where there would be less frequent movement of materials and where 80% of the structure should be devoted to stack space. The three problems which seemed unresolved to the Office of the Supervising Architect in 1916 were (1) the amount of material to be transferred to the building, (2) the amount of material actually transferred which might later be destroyed, and (3) the amount of records outside of Washington.[92]

William W. Harts, the secretary of the Fine Arts Commission, told the Secretary of the Treasury that the Commission understood the preliminary nature of the plans and thought them workable, but the Commission thought the exterior design did not sufficiently express the special purpose of the building.[93] Earlier Simon had shown the plans to Charles Moore and Herbert Putnam and had invited their criticism and advice.[94] Jameson thought Putnam made

[89] Louis A. Simon: "Some Considerations on the Housing of Archives" in the *Annual Report of the American Historical Association for the Year 1916*, 150.

[90] "Memorandum of Governing Elements Entering into the Arrangements and Design of a Building for the National Archives," 26 February 1916 (Records of the Advisory Committee on the National Archives).

[91] *Ibid.*

[92] *Ibid.*

[93] Harts to W. G. McAdoo, 22 May 1916 (Records of Fine Arts Commission).

[94] Moore to Jameson, 11 March 1916.

good suggestions, probably already incorporated.[95] The important point, he thought (probably concealing an impatience with any who might delay the project in a dispute over minor points), was the fact that major changes were not needed.[96]

He was now ready to campaign for the next objective — the selection of a site by the Treasury department. Assistant Secretary B. R. Newton was warmly interested. No great problem was foreseen in this regard. Of the sites Jameson preferred at that moment the site where the Supreme Court and the Methodist Building are now located (Maryland Avenue in that block would have been closed).[97] One Colonel Woods assured him that there was no likelihood of the Court going there.[98]

Jameson prepared a 27-page statement on possible sites, with monetary and archival evaluations in April 1916.[99] These included the Supreme Court-Methodist Building site, one east of the Senate Office Building, one east of the House Office Building and south of the Library of Congress, and several south of The Mall. The site selected by the Treasury department was that between "B" and "C" and 12th and 13th, NW.[100] But the selection was made two years after Jameson's memorandum had been prepared.

The Act of 1913 required an inspection of European archival buildings, which was not, of course, possible in 1916 while the war raged furiously. Legally this requirement was a barrier which prevented the special commission which the Act of 1913 had also established from approving the sketch-plans and the site selected by the Treasury. The commission consisted of the Vice-President (Marshall), the Speaker of the House (Clark), the Secretary of the Treasury (McAdoo), the Secretary of War (Baker), and the Secretary of the Interior (Lane). It met on 10 April 1916 but was unable to act because the inspection of European buildings had not been made.[101] The inspection was made unnecessary by an Act of 28 June 1916.[102] The commission was then free to consider and approve or disapprove the plans which had been prepared and to

[95] Jameson to Moore, 20 March 1916.

[96] *Ibid.*

[97] *Ibid.*

[98] *Ibid.* He consistently avoided being irrevocably committed to any site. See Jameson to Putnam, 10 February 1916.

[99] In Records of Fine Arts Commission. The statement was revised two years later. See also, Jameson to Poindexter, 1 April 1916.

[100] W. G. McAdoo to others of the special commission, 13 November 1918 (Records of Fine Arts Commission).

[101] Jameson to Thomas R. Marshall, 12 January 1917.

[102] *Ibid.*

approve or disapprove the choice of a site. Early in 1917 Jameson endeavored to persuade Vice-President Marshall to call the commission together for these purposes. Marshall said he would call the commission together shortly, but that there was no chance to get an appropriation for the purchase of a site.[103] Jameson hoped then, he said, for the approval of the plans, of the choice of a site, and, subsequently, for an appropriation for preparing detailed plans.[104] The commission finally acted on 29 November 1918, after not a little behind-the-scenes maneuvering by Jameson, of which little appears to be recorded.[105]

While Jameson pressed each possible advantage, the efforts slowed to a virtual stop during the months of the war. He urged his friend of Johns Hopkins days, Woodrow Wilson, to include a recommendation for the erection of an archives building in his annual message of 1916. He recapitulated briefly the story of the movement which began ". . . when you and I were in college . . ." noting that the matter had been brought to the stage ". . . where every member of Congress that one meets, agrees that such a building ought to be erected."[106] Plans of "great excellence," made in the Office of the Supervising Architect, had received favorable consideration from the Fine Arts Commission, from historical people, and from the Librarian of Congress. The plans would give the country the finest national archives building in the world at a cost of $1,500,000 for 3,000,000 cubic feet.[107] What was needed was an appropriation for the purchase of a site. A strong recommendation from Wilson ". . . would come with additional force, from one who is not only the head of the Executive Department of the Government, but is known to speak with authority from the point of view of an historian."

Wilson, with a strenuous campaign behind and war ahead, was not able to help in any large measure. He said there was no use in proposing the measure in the short session, but in a future Congress they might turn to it and push it to action.[108]

At other levels Jameson warded off the suggestions that War

[103] Marshall to Jameson, 19 January 1917.

[104] Jameson to Marshall, 22 January 1917.

[105] Jameson to H. M. Lord, 17 August 1922; Jameson to S. B. Harding, 29 October 1917; James A. Wetmore to Charles Moore, 28 September 1917 (Fine Arts Commission); and McAdoo to others of special commission, 13 November 1918 (Fine Arts Commission).

[106] Jameson to Wilson, 15 November 1916.

[107] *Ibid.*

[108] Wilson to Jameson, 16 November 1916.

Department records be put in a special archives building,[109] and that Revolutionary and Civil War records be placed in the Lincoln Memorial.[110] He hoped the War Department people would join in the drive for a general archives and thought records ought not to be treated as museum pieces or artifacts. A little later he was to inquire of the possibility that the Roosevelt Memorial Association erect an archives building as a functional memorial to Theodore Roosevelt.[111] The Association did not feel it should sponsor a structure which ought to be built by the Federal government.[112] The idea of a young friend of his, Samuel F. Bemis, that the archives be a memorial to George Washington was considered even if the project were delayed thereby until 1932.[113] The testimony of the Assistant Secretary of the Navy on 13 October 1919 about attempts to save space and rental for navy records probably passed by, little noticed among the testimony of other assistant secretaries and lesser officials.[114]

VII

When the war had ended, the American Historical Association's committee on national archives was revived with the membership of Jameson, Charles Moore, and Frederic L. Paxson.[115] In 1919 the committee was raised to the status and importance of a standing committee of the Association.[116] The membership then included Jameson, Moore, and Oliver L. Spaulding, Jr., of the Historical Branch, General Staff, War Department. A year later Jameson, Moore, and Spaulding were joined, in an enlarged committee, by Gaillard Hunt, now returned to the Department of State, and Eben Putnam of the American Legion.[117]

In 1925 the membership had changed again — this time consisting of Jameson, Moore, Eben Putnam, Tyler Dennett of the Department of State, and James B. Wilbur of Vermont.[118] Twenty years after the committee was first set up, Jameson relinquished

[109] Jameson to Poindexter, 7 May 1918.
[110] Jameson to G. M. Brumbaugh, 24 October 1917.
[111] Jameson to James R. Garfield, 3 December 1924.
[112] Garfield to Jameson, 6 December 1924.
[113] Jameson to John A. Stewart, 18 February 1924.
[114] *Annual Report of Public Buildings Commission* (1919), p. 8.
[115] *Annual Report of the American Historical Association for the Year 1918*, I, 42 (the executive council meeting of 1 February 1919).
[116] *Ibid*, 1919, I, 23, 75.
[117] *Ibid*, 1921, I, 19, 84.
[118] *Ibid*, 1925, I, 19, 79.

the chairmanship to Charles Moore, and saw his associate, Waldo G. Leland, added to those previously enumerated.[119]

The American Economic Association and the American Political Science Association cooperated by appointing in 1919 representatives to assist the committee.[120] William F. Willoughby was appointed to represent the political science group and Victor S. Clark, the economic association.

The expanded, revised, and reinforced committee faced (as did all who sought the archives building) many facets of one problem between the first war and 1926: How to get appropriations for a site and for the building. The great expenditures in the war, the desire for normalcy, the effort to avoid responsibilities on a world level, the fresh cries for economy combined to make these appropriations more than ordinarily difficult to get from Congress. The proposals for the archives were not so directly opposed as circumvented by a not-now-wait-a-year-or-two attitude. The response in the Senate was generally more favorable than that of the House, and the lower house exercised vigorously its constitutional right to originate money bills. Too many House members, Jameson complained rather bitterly,[121] were determined to do nothing about public buildings in Washington until the President and the Treasury department combined these requests with substantial provisions for post offices and such buildings in the "deestricts."[122]

The year 1920 passed with almost no visible progress.[123] The disposition of the Congress, it seemed to the archives committee, was to institute a regular building program and to follow the recommendations of the Public Buildings Commission. In the Senate Smoot declared strongly in favor of erecting the archives building first.

In the next year the writing of still another memorial was deemed appropriate. Jameson was asked to prepare it for the Association.[124]

The committee felt in 1922 that they did all that was possible in that year.[125] The Secretary of the Treasury inserted into the budget, as had been done for several years past, an item of nearly half a million dollars for the purchase of a site. The Director of the

[119] *Ibid*, 1927 and 1928, I, 131, 176.

[120] Jameson to Henry B. Gardner, 22 January 1919; Jameson to Henry J. Ford, 22 January 1919; and Ford to Jameson, 31 January 1919.

[121] Jameson to Eben Putnam, 22 July 1924.

[122] *Ibid.*

[123] *Annual Report of the American Historical Association for the Year 1920*, I, 88.

[124] *Ibid*, 1921, I, 84.

[125] *Ibid*, 1922, I, 70.

Budget approved the item, and the House Committee on appropriations promptly omitted it from the bill reported to the floor. Fess of Ohio and Dallinger of Massachusetts attempted unsuccessfully to restore it to the bill from the floor of the House. The Senate included the item in its version of the bill, but it was lost in conference. A last minute attempt by Fess and Dallinger to insert it into the conference report was defeated by a thumping 131-8 vote. This action (Jameson watched the last debate from the House gallery) convinced Jameson thoroughly that no proposal to buy land could be gotten through the House.[126]

Jameson provided Dallinger and Smoot with materials for speeches, but it was clear that no appropriation would come from the 67th Congress.[127] "Perhaps in 1923, perhaps in 1933, or in 1943," Jameson wrote his friend McLaughlin.[128] "Francis Bacon proposed the British Public Record Office in 1616, and they got it [the building, that is] in 1856."

Later in the year Jameson took an occasion to recount the history of the movement and its present status to the Director of the Budget, Brigadier General H. M. Lord.[129] His immediate purpose was to convince the Director that the building had been fully authorized by previous actions of Congress. This point had been raised by a Member, but Jameson's contention was upheld when the Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate ruled that full authorization had already been provided.[130]

President Harding early in 1923 ordered the Director of the Budget to make ends meet: the provision for beginning the archives did not, consequently, get beyond the Director's office.[131] Little else happened, archivally speaking, in 1923 except that an amendment was offered to a bill in the Senate to provide a million dollars to erect steel stacks in the interior courtyard of the old Pension Building as a temporary expedient.[132] Jameson thought the notion ". . . both unsuitable and unsafe, and, if adopted, would have postponed indefinitely the erection of a national archives building."[133] Poindexter offered an amendment to use half a million dollars to erect

[126] Jameson to Reed Smoot, 23 February 1922.
[127] Jameson to A. C. McLaughlin, 11 January 1922.
[128] *Ibid.*
[129] Jameson to Lord, 17 August 1922.
[130] *Annual Report*, 1923, I, 79.
[131] Jameson to Eben Putnam, 8 February 1923, and Jameson to Clode Byars (of the Washington *Herald*), 8 February 1923.
[132] *Annual Report*, 1923, I, 79.
[133] *Ibid.*

a building on land already owned by the Government.[134] Both proposals were lost in conference.

The death of Harding and the accession of a new president meant that the whole problem must be presented to the new chief executive.[135] After a lengthy recital of the story Jameson asked the President, "Is it not more strange than creditable, that a thing which all legislators have for a decade agreed ought to be done, has in a decade not been achieved — even though the decade has been marked by war and needed economies?"

Coolidge, the next year, made a general recommendation for the construction of several buildings, specifically mentioning the archives.[136] By this time Jameson was quite convinced that success in getting the building lay in the general building program talked of more and more.[137] Such an issue as the bonus tended to delay action, but the matter could not be delayed many years. And it was not. The Act of 25 May 1926 provided for the erection of many buildings in the District and elsewhere to be put up under a program determined by the Public Buildings Commission.

VIII

Yes, I think we can now be sure that the National Archive Building will be erected, [Jameson wrote] and as soon as the slow operations of government building permit. The Public Buildings Act made, as you have seen, a large provision for buildings in the District, and placed the priority of buildings, choice of sites, and the control over procedure in the hands of the Public Buildings Commission. After one of the recent meetings of that Commission, the chairman, Senator Smoot, announced that the Archive Building would be the first to be taken up, and I gather that he is determined upon this and that there would be no effective opposition. . . .[138]

It was taken for granted that the necessary appropriations would be promptly made. The proposed site for the building continued to be that selected in 1918 — the square bounded by 12th and 13th, and "B" and "C" Streets, Northwest.[139] It would take some time to purchase this and other land in the Triangle, but ". . . I am now

[134] *Ibid.*

[135] Jameson to Calvin Coolidge, 23 September 1923.

[136] Jameson to H. H. B. Meyer, 30 June 1924.

[137] Jameson to Eben Putnam, 22 July 1924.

[138] Jameson to Eben Putnam, 4 June 1926.

[139] Confirmed by a resolve of the Public Buildings Commission in 1926. See Smoot to A. W. Mellon, 19 November 1926 (Records of Public Building Administration), and Supervising Architect to R. D. W. Connor, 2 March 1938 (Advisory Committee on the National Archives).

able to expect to see a National Archive Building here in Washington before I die."[140]

Eighteen years after the active agitation began a successful conclusion seemed finally in sight. The work was not all done, however, and the battles were not all won. The archives building and the organization were fully bound up with the building program designed to fill the Triangle. Two principal tasks remained for Jameson and the scholarly world to do: to secure the most practical and useful structure, and to secure the most effective and efficient organization possible. The two problems intertwined. It was easier for the public mind and in the grand manner of politicians to understand the problem of construction. Architects more than politicians understood the interrelation of form and function.

The work of Jameson and Leland and Simon and the others in earlier years in understanding and outlining these problems was not altogether lost. Very soon after the passage of the Public Buildings Act Jameson met with Charles Moore and Tyler Dennett to consider what could be done to insure the continuance of desired features in current plans for the building.[141]

To Senator Simeon D. Fess of Ohio, who had been one of Jameson's students, he confided his concern about the creation of an organization to function in the building. He said

> . . . the objects for which we have sought such a building — security, suitable care, orderly arrangement, ease in laying hands quickly on what is needed for government use or by students, facility in using and good results from use — can not be secured by a building alone. There must be a high-grade organization, with expert personnel taken over from the contributing departments or secured by special search, and all necessary legislation toward this end ought to be put through in the next session of Congress, because a portion of the staff should be at work, well before the completion of the building, in doing all that can be done before hand to facilitate the transfer. If the organization of the archive service should wait till the building is ready, the service would be swamped in the beginning, and chaos produced, by the tumbling in of tons of records and papers which departments are in a hurry to get rid of.[142]

Jameson recalled that he had some years previously drawn up a memorandum[143] on the whole subject and offered, from it and some additional thoughts and suggestions, to draw up a revised version with a draft of a suitable bill. He supposed, continuing to

[140] *Ibid.*

[141] Jameson to Eben Putnam, 4 June 1926.

[142] Jameson to Fess, 23 June 1926.

[143] See his "Memorandum On Organization of the National Archives," 30 November 1927 (Flippin, Vol. XX).

Fess, that the bill would be referred to the Committee on the Library ". . . since it seems to be pretty well agreed that the best plan would be to put the general control of the national archives in the hands of the Librarian of Congress, yet to be administered as a concern distinctly separate from the Library."[144]

Senator Smoot spoke of the struggle there would be to get some departments to part with immediate custody and control of their papers. Jameson thought

> . . . the plan which I have formed will minimize difficulties of that sort. The natural history of national archive buildings, the world over, has been much the same, and I think we can predict what will happen, if at the beginning we take pains to meet the susceptibilities of departments accustomed to the old system.[144]

On the same day Jameson expressed these views in similar terms to James B. Wilbur. The best plan, he told Wilbur, to bring about the ends sought ". . . and secure independence of any political interference, is to put the whole thing under the control of the Librarian of Congress, to be administered however, of course, as an institution distinctly separate from the Library."[145]

Of primary importance to the architect was the selection, finally and irrevocably, of the site for the building. With this factor determined the architect could begin in a practical way to work into the plans the features that could be only tentative while he guessed at terrain, surrounding buildings, drainage, and such problems. The site for the archives building, which had been permanently "settled" at least twice had to go through two more changes. A big departmental building (Commerce) took precedence over the archives for the site at 12th and 13th, and "B" and "C," NW.[146] The next site was that bounded by 9th and 10th, and "B" and Pennsylvania, NW.[147] About 1930 the Board of Architectural Consultants in a meeting considered an idea, probably brought up by John R. Pope, that the archives might well form the termination of the cross-axis of The Mall which corresponds to 8th Street.[148] Some poetic advantages and ephemeral logic can be seen in having

[144] *Ibid.*

[145] Jameson to Wilbur, 23 June 1926. The Fess bill was S-1169, 70th Congress, 1st Session, introduced 6 December 1927. The bill would have made the Librarian of Congress the "Director of the National Archives." The Archivist, an appointee of the Director, would have managed actively the National Archives.

[146] *Annual Reports*, 1927 and 1928, I, 96.

[147] *Ibid.*

[148] Supervising Architect to R. D. W. Conner, 2 March 1938 (Advisory Committee on the National Archives).

the record office of the nation located equi-distant between the Capitol and the White House. But some persons allowed themselves to call attention to such mundane matters as the presence of the former little river on the site and the fact that there was no room for expansion when the building should be filled.[149] Smoot told Putnam on one occasion that the matter of the site had been settled, that he was too busy to reconsider it, and that the decision would have to stand.[150]

Jameson participated in the activities of three special committees which were set up to explore the problems of the architect and to offer expert advice on the problems the archivist would face. In the first instance the Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, Charles S. Dewey, who had the matter in charge and who was ". . . properly anxious that the building should meet all the needs appropriate to an archive building, has asked me to name archivists that ought to be consulted about such things. . . ."[151] These men would be summoned to a conference either late in September or early in October 1926. Jameson suggested — in the absence of two men in Europe — three individuals: Herbert Putnam, for his familiarity with similar constructions and experience in meeting the needs of Government and public; Charles Moore, who had in charge the establishment (the Division of Manuscripts) most resembling in contents and use the National Archives, his familiarity with problems of Government buildings, and as chairman of the Fine Arts Commission; and Worthington C. Ford of the Massachusetts Historical Society, a former chief of the Division of Manuscripts and a former employee of the State and Treasury departments, for his widely recognized competence and judgment, and as out-of-Washington representation.[152] The meeting was held the 24th of September 1926. Meantime Jameson discovered that the plans now under consideration bore little resemblance to the 1915 plans which had been made ". . . with much consultation of Leland and others who know what archives are and are for."[153] It is from this time that the simplicity and directness of the early plans were forgotten and the monumental building, columns and all, came into focus.

[149] Interview with Herbert Putnam, 25 March 1948; Putnam to Smoot, 9 January 1928 (Public Buildings Administration); and Advisory Committee to A. W. Mellon (letter drafted by Jameson), 11 November 1930.

[150] Interview with Herbert Putnam, 25 March 1948.

[151] Jameson to Christian A. Bach, 3 September 1926.

[152] Jameson to Charles S. Dewey, 4 September 1926.

[153] Jameson to W. C. Ford, 4 September 1926.

Subsequent to the small September conference, a general discussion meeting was scheduled. Each Department was to send a representative.[154] But the archives building remained in the talking stage. Most of the land in the Triangle was privately owned and negotiations for purchase or condemnation were long and tedious.[155] Some complaints were voiced to Jameson about the slowness in getting to actual construction. In answer to one, he spoke in 1928 of the time required under the present system of condemnation:

> I should judge that half of the necessary time had elapsed, and I do not know that anything can be done to abridge that portion of the process . . . of course all these enormous projects for filling up the Triangle with public buildings hang together. I imagine they will go forward exactly as decreed by Senator Smoot, who is, and means to be, the Public Buildings Commission.[156]

The second committee was created by a resolve of the Public Buildings Commission early in 1929.[157] The committee had representation from the Office of the Supervising Architect (Louis A. Simon and James A. Wetmore), State (Tyler Dennett), War (John C. Schofield), General Accounting Office (J. L. Baity), and the Library of Congress (Jameson).[158] It was charged with making recommendations incident to determining the administrative organization of the building [sic]; under what Governmental activity, if any, its functions should be placed; and the type and amounts of materials to be placed in it. The committee met in April[159] and a month later had drafted a bill to create the office of Archivist of the United States and to state his duties.[160]

The proposed bill established the office of Archivist, a National Archives Council, an Advisory Committee, a Commission on National Historical Publications. Significant features of the bill gave record-creating agencies power (mandatory on the Archivist) to restrict the use of their papers, and established a record-retirement program. Records prior to 1860 were to be transferred within six months after completion of the building. Subsequently, at five year intervals, five years of files would be transferred, though a series need not be broken. An agency might transfer records in advance

154 Dewey to Secretary of War, 29 October 1926 (Public Buildings Administration).
155 *Annual Reports*, 1927 and 1928, I, 176.
156 Jameson to George S. Godard, 21 September 1928.
157 U. S. Grant 3d to James A. Wetmore, 15 March 1929 (Advisory Committee on the National Archives).
158 Wetmore to Smoot, 28 January 1930 (Advisory Committee).
159 Dennett to Wetmore, 30 April 1929 (Advisory Committee).
160 Wetmore to Grant, 20 May 1929 (enclosing copy of bill) (Advisory Committee).

of this schedule. The Archivist might invite the transfer of additional files, but, if the agency declined, the question would be submitted to the President for decision.[161]

The bill, offered in the Senate by Smoot,[162] like the ones introduced earlier by Senator Fess (drafted by Jameson) and by Senator Smoot in 1928,[163] was not brought to favorable action in either house. When it became apparent that the bill would not become law, Secretary Mellon suggested to President Hoover that a small committee be appointed to consider the general character and volume of the archives, attempt to determine a primary classification of what should be preserved and what destroyed, and review the plans for the building.[164] The President acted on the suggestion.[165]

The new committee had the effect, if not the stated purpose, of allaying fears felt by the departments. The work of the committee performed functions which would have been performed by the Advisory Committee had S-3354 or a similar bill become law. Its membership represented the major contributing agencies. By enlisting the aid of those who would turn over their records the psychological barriers must be considerably reduced and a bedrock of goodwill created. This committee consisted of Dennett (State), Simon (Treasury), James F. McKinley (War), E. K. Burlew (Interior), James L. Baity (General Accounting Office), and Jameson (Library of Congress).[166] Simon, on motion of Jameson, was elected chairman, and Dennett was elected vice-chairman.

The committee thrashed out again in theory the nature and function of a national archives. While sometimes wordy and occasionally seeming to ride off in all directions at the same time, the committee performed the functions of making an inventory of all Governmental files and of reviewing the working plans for the building. In the first case it was found that only 108,000 cubic feet of records prior to 1861 existed, that 923,000 were found in the period 1861-1916, and more than two and a half million cubic feet for 1917-1930.[167] When those not of permanent value were eliminated the total was just under three million cubic feet. With these figures

[161] *Ibid.*

[162] S-3354, 71st Congress, 2d Session.

[163] *Annual Report*, 1927 and 1928, I, 176.

[164] Andrew W. Mellon to Herbert Hoover, 3 July 1930 (Advisory Committee).

[165] Hoover to Ferry K. Heath, 7 July 1930; and Hoover to heads of agencies, 7 July 1930 (Advisory Committee).

[166] "Minutes — Meetings of Advisory Committee on National Archives" (21 July 1930-29 April 1931) (Advisory Committee).

[167] Master Recapitulation, 2 October 1930 (Advisory Committee).

in mind and the slow record retirement contemplated by S-3354, the committee could approve Jameson's logic that the building of ten million cubic feet currently contemplated would not be needed.[168] From these suggestions the decision was reached to erect only part of the stacks at first.[169]

Some interesting questions relating to the structure were resolved. One, the use of "re-conditioned air" for best preservation of documents was mentioned by Simon.[170] The problem was explained to the Surgeon General of the Public Health Service who assured them no directly harmful results need be anticipated to the health of employees.[171]

The committee summarized its findings in letters to the Secretary of the Treasury dated 20 October 1930, 11 November 1930, and 29 April 1931, in the recapitulation sheets (or booklets) and its "Program Prepared as a Basis for Preliminary Sketches." The last contained detailed suggestions for the architect. By this time, too, the project was far enough advanced that a galaxy of architects and construction engineers were ready, after more than three decades, to build. It must be evident, as well, that as the building advanced farther toward completion the engineers and the politicians became more important and the influence of Jameson was somewhat outweighed.

IX

The interest of Jameson closes with his efforts to get good legislation on the books to create the agency and to secure the appointment of a capable scholar to the post of archivist.

How the archives establishment should be administered was of prime consideration from the time of the earlier proposals. Out of the welter of talk and discussions had come a general realization that the building would need to be more than mere storage space with a powerless superintendent "over" autonomous employees from the departments. Jameson would have agreed to this system (thinking it temporary) in 1910, but not in 1930. Another intermediate proposal had been to put the archives, as a semi-autonomous establishment, under the Librarian of Congress. This would

[168] "Minutes," 3, 10, 11 November 1930; also, letter of committee to Mellon, 20 October 1930 and 11 November 1930 (Advisory Committee).

[169] Committee to Mellon, 11 November 1930 (Advisory Committee).

[170] "Minutes," 21 July 1930.

[171] Simon to Surgeon General, 14 August 1930, 2 September 1930; Surgeon General to Simon, 25 August 1930, 10 September 1930 (Advisory Committee).

have been an agreeable arrangement to Jameson while Putnam remained Librarian and if independent status were not attainable. From beginning to end, however, he felt that a National Archives subordinate to no other agency could best perform its task.

As a matter of expediency Jameson acquiesced to proposals made intermittently between 1910 and 1928 that the archives be in the Librarian's charge. After the bill drafted by the special committee of the Public Buildings Commission and subsequently introduced by Senator Smoot, only an independent National Archives is spoken of and written of.

Yet years passed after the building was authorized, after appropriations were made, even after construction had actually begun, before the institution was legally created. In May 1934 three bills were in Congress for this purpose: S-2942, introduced by Senator Fess, which was substantially that drawn up by the special committee in 1929; H.R.-8910, introduced by Representative Sol Bloom of New York, which Jameson thought good, but hastily drawn up; and S-3110, introduced by Senator Kenneth McKellar of Tennessee, which Jameson thought had been drawn up with the interest of McKellar's candidate for Archivist in mind.[172]

Senator Fess, doubtless at the instance of Jameson, had undertaken to get action by introducing the old Smoot bill which had failed of passage. Not, however, until almost the last day of the session did the conference committee meet to iron out differences in conflicting House and Senate bills. Jameson's reaction was cogently expressed to Louis Simon:

> I am somewhat disappointed that the final result is not better, but the conferees labored with the matter in great haste, with their minds distracted by other things, on the morning of what was expected to be the last day of the session, and therefore their combination of the Senate bill with the House bill (which was distinctly better), proved to be a little clumsy in some respects. In spite of whatever efforts were made to steer them right, they had not the time to digest the whole matter perfectly. However, the act is good in the main, and workable. Anyhow, the main point is than *an* act was passed. There was a time when I feared that the session would end without this.[173]

A copy of H.R.-8910[174] is filed in the records of the Advisory Committee on the National Archives and has the annotation, "As corrected in ink, this is the bill as it passed. J.F.J."

[172] Jameson to Conyers Read, 14 May 1934.
[173] Jameson to Simon, 19 June 1934.
[174] Public Law 432, 73rd Congress (19 June 1934).

Not long after President Hoover laid the cornerstone in February 1933 and the building was inching upward from Pennsylvania Avenue, many volunteers for the post of Archivist began also to appear. Jameson insisted to one and all that he had no candidate and hoped only for the appointment of a well-qualified man. Least seriously did he take the suggestion that he should be given the appointment. When Rosa P. Chiles said as much, he answered that not only did his age disqualify him (he was then approaching 74) but that even when younger he was not the sort of person for the job, nor should he have desired it.[175] "Neither," he added, "should I expect to be asked to recommend anybody." Only a few persons, who, like Miss Chiles, personally recalled the early struggles for the institution, he thought, would connect him with it in 1933.

In earlier years he had feared a political appointment, but shortly before the Act of 19 June 1934 was passed by Congress he said:

> Whom the President would think of, I have no idea, but he is enough of a historical scholar to make me think that, in canvassing qualifications, he will not leave historical-mindedness out of account. Another prime qualification would be ability to get along with the departments, with some of whom it would be easy to have a succession of rows; yet the archivist must have a stiff backbone and power enough to fight well for his own views.[176]

Jameson, however, subsequently was chairman of a small committee appointed by the Executive Council of the American Historical Association to suggest a candidate for archivist. The committee, after a careful canvass, recommended to Franklin D. Roosevelt the appointment of R. D. W. Connor of North Carolina.[177] The President acted on the suggestion, and the Senate confirmed the nomination. The appointments of the second archivist, Solon J. Buck, in 1941, and the third archivist, Wayne C. Grover, in 1948, were also non-political and based on merit. The fears that the agency might suffer from partisan political appointments have proved thus far to be unjustified.

Soon after the appointment of Dr. Connor, the competent staff was gathered, the records began to tumble in, and the institution was at such long last a reality.

[175] Jameson to Rosa P. Chiles, 1 April 1933.

[176] Jameson to Conyers Read, 14 May 1934.

[177] Interview with Waldo G. Leland, 27 May 1948. Also, see *Annual Report of the American Historical Association for the Year 1935*, 69, (the executive council meeting of 20 May 1934).

X

Curiously enough, when inscriptions and subjects for paintings were being selected (Jameson appears to have had no part in this), no consideration seems to have been given to the men who interested themselves in earlier decades in the preservation of American archives. Such persons as Pierre du Simitière or Ebenezer Hazard, Peter Force or Jared Sparks, or perhaps Henry Stevens or Justin Winsor had no chance against military and political figures. Jefferson was remembered as patriot, not as one who urged widespread availability of archives. But one day, perhaps, this imbalance can be righted. Possibly there may be a time when a token of our indebtedness to earlier persons interested in archives will be found in the building at Seventh and Pennsylvania. If that time ever comes, the largest token must be for the person to whom, more than to any other single individual, we are indebted for the perseverance, patience, and persistence which got us the beginning from which has been developed the National Archives — J. Franklin Jameson.

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The Papers of Thomas Jefferson: Progress and Procedures in the Enterprise at Princeton[1]

By LYMAN H. BUTTERFIELD

Princeton University

I

IN JULY 1809, five months after Mr. Jefferson had retired from the Presidency to his Virginia home, a bookseller in Petersburg named John W. Campbell wrote him, making what he called a "proposition," which was to publish "a complete edition of your different writings, as far as they may be designed for the public; including the 'Notes on Virginia.'" To this Jefferson sent a very characteristic reply. He named over the several works he supposed Campbell had in mind. The *Notes on Virginia*, Jefferson said, he planned to revise and enlarge, but the work of revision could not be undertaken now. The *Summary View* "was not written for publication" in the first place:

> I do not mention the Parliamentary manual published for the use of the Senate of the U. S. because it was a mere compilation, into which nothing entered of my own, but the arrangement, and a few observations necessary to explain that and some of the cases.
>
> I do not know whether your view extends to official papers of mine which have been published. Many of these would be like old newspapers, materials for future historians, but no longer interesting to the readers of the day. They would consist of Reports, correspondencies, messages, answers to addresses; a few of my Reports while Secretary of State might perhaps be read by some as Essays on abstract subjects. Such as the Report on Measures weights & coins, on the mint, on the fisheries, on commerce, on the use of distilled sea-water &c. The correspondencies with the British & French ministers, Hammond and Genet, were published by Congress. The Messages to Congress, which might have been interesting at the moment, would scarcely be read a second time, and answers to addresses are hardly read a first time.
>
> So that on a review of these various materials, I see nothing encouraging a

[1]Paper read at Chapel Hill, N. C., October 28, 1948, at the joint annual meeting of the Society of American Archivists and the American Association for State and Local History.

printer to a republication of them. They would probably be bought by those only who are in the habit of preserving state-papers, & who are not many.

I say nothing of numerous draughts of reports, resolutions, declarations &c. drawn as a member of Congress or of the legislature of Virginia, such as the Declaration of Independance, Report on the money Unit of the U. S., the Act for religious freedom &c. &c. These having become the acts of public bodies, there can be no personal claim to them, and they would no more find readers now than the Journals & Statute books in which they are deposited.

I have presented this general view of the subjects which might have been within the scope of your contemplation, that they might be correctly estimated before any final decision. They belong mostly to a class of papers not calculated for popular reading, & not likely therefore to offer profit, or even indemnification to the republisher. Submitting it to your consideration I tender you my salutations & respects.

Negotiations went a little further but were then dropped. Evidently Jefferson, though perfectly cooperative, brought Campbell round to his own view of the matter. He would willingly have seen a collection of historical records published, for he presumed there were some others besides himself interested in acquiring such records; but he could not recommend the proposal as a money-maker, and he said so frankly.

Campbell's plan for an octavo volume of Jefferson's writings was the first attempt at what we are hoping to do in fifty rather larger volumes. It is pleasant, if not particularly rewarding, to speculate on what Jefferson would have thought of our undertaking to gather and print all of his papers. He would, I know, have been surprised. He would not, I think, have been irritated or distressed. There is abundant evidence to show that he expected to have his papers studied and used by scholars. No other President except the second Roosevelt has possessed so strong an archival instinct; and however badly his papers have been manhandled since, Jefferson himself left them in beautiful order. If he had had anything to keep secret, he could and presumably would have destroyed it; yet there is no evidence that he ever destroyed a scrap of paper except his correspondence with his wife. That belonged to him, but everything else was preserved for the public to scrutinize in the future with all the curiosity that it wished. In the Princeton file there are literally hundreds of scraps of paper saved by Jefferson, and among them are some of the most entertaining and occasionally significant pieces in the whole body of his archives. There are mathematical calculations; designs for machines and furniture and landscape details; recipes for macaroni and other dishes; itineraries; agricul-

tural and meteorological data; tables of useful information; book lists; and notes and memoranda on an incredible variety of subjects, from the use of Archimedes' screw at Kew to snuff, Sophocles, and specific gravity. These may be trivia; nevertheless, we owe the recent recovery of a fragment of the earliest text of the Declaration of Independence to Jefferson's habit of not throwing away anything he had written. Or, to take a less spectacular yet important and characteristic instance of his archival habits, I may mention a dossier recently found, just as Jefferson left it, of material relating to his tour in the Low Countries and up the Rhine in the spring of 1788. There are over fifty separate pieces in the group, including a record of daily expenditures, itineraries and advice on travel conditions, a colorful group of printed and engraved tradecards from inns and shops in the towns where he stopped, and receipted bills (in four languages) for lodging, meals, coach-hire, and purchases along the way. Dipping into the collection is as effective a means as I know of reconstructing the life of the roads and hostelries of a century and a half ago.

The Jefferson archives contain masses of material of this kind — social documentation, if it is to be given a colorless name. Jefferson would have been happy to see it put to use, however surprised he would have been to learn that his papers constitute an encyclopedia of his times.

Though I am among those who find Jefferson's words unfailingly interesting and frequently inspiring, this is a technical rather than an inspirational paper. I shall therefore pass over the early history of the enterprise: how it grew out of Mr. Julian P. Boyd's work as historian of the Jefferson Bicentennial Commission in 1943; how The New York Times Co., seeking an appropriate memorial for the late Adolph S. Ochs, agreed to finance the editorial operations; and how the Princeton University Press undertook to publish the work in an estimated fifty volumes. I propose here to present a report of progress thus far, and to treat in some detail of the three major phases of the work: gathering the materials, processing them, and getting them into print.

II

The plan Mr. Boyd set forth in his *Report* to the Bicentennial Commission called for the assembling of the entire Jefferson documentation in photofacsimile form; and the agreement with The New York Times Co. called for the publication of *all* of the papers assembled (some, to be sure, in only summary form). These two

decisions placed the work on a different footing from any previous undertaking. It was to be a new and in some respects a unique combination of archival and editorial aims and functions.

The work could not have been undertaken at all, of course, without the aid of the microfilm camera — an instrument which makes us all equal, in a way, with Peter Force or Lyman Draper. Of almost equal importance to us has been the continuous-process enlargement printer, familiar to everyone as the V-mail machine, which enabled us to obtain paper prints of the documents in the larger collections at a very low cost per page. In addition to economy, the use of photofacsimiles has certain other solid advantages. In the several editorial processes, one cannot handle an autograph document 150 years old with the freedom one can handle a print of it. The reproduction can be cut up and distributed by date if necessary, as in the case of letterbooks or in the many cases we have encountered of Jefferson's using a single piece of writing paper for several purposes. A reproduction can be stamped for control purposes; marginal notes or readings can be placed on it. And so on.

At the same time dependence on photoreproductions has some grave disadvantages. In any given 5,000 microframes made from mounted or loose MSS., one can always count on a few accidental omissions. When blank pages are not filmed, endorsements and docketing memoranda of consequence are sometimes overlooked, and perplexities and doubtless errors sometimes result in attempting to reconstruct the original document. Reading from poor prints, or prints made from defective originals, can be among the most exasperating experiences of editorial life. One is forever straining to discover what was in the inner margin into which the camera did not reach, or in the outer margin obscured by the mounting sheet. For these and other reasons we are obliged, as we transcribe and edit, to bombard the custodians of the originals with queries that must tax even their notorious patience.

The second decision mentioned above — that the edition was to comprehend the entire body of Jefferson's papers — differentiated the undertaking from others of its kind in one very obvious respect: it was to be much larger than any similar publication. It is not possible, even if it were worthwhile, to compare statistically the total bulk of the Jefferson archives with the archives of other highly productive public men; but it is doubtful whether, before the advent of the typewriter, any other public figure left as many papers. Franklin lived as long and had almost as wide-ranging in-

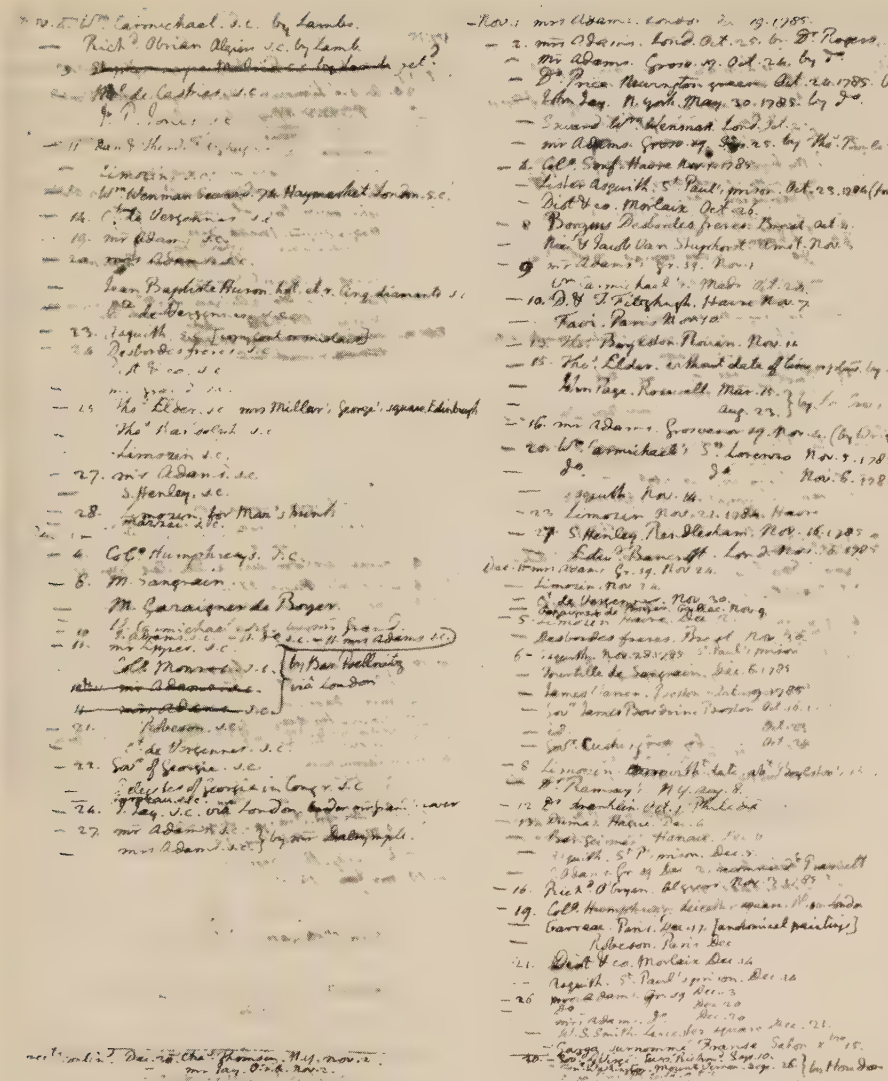
terests, but he was never President. Washington was President and, what is more, commander-in-chief for eight years, but his interests were narrower and his life considerably shorter. In any event, there has been no attempt at either a comprehensive *Franklin* or a comprehensive *Washington*: we have only one side of their respective correspondences in print. The Bicentennial *Washington*, it may be pointed out, though running to thirty-seven volumes of text, contains only about one third the number of words (8,000,000) and about one third the number of documents (17,000) that the *Jefferson* is planned to embrace in fifty volumes of text. Or if we compare the *Jefferson* with the enterprise most nearly like it in editorial form, the Yale edition of Horace Walpole's *Correspondence*, we find that, though the *Walpole* is to be completed in fifty noble volumes, only about one quarter as many documents are being included in each of its volumes as are planned for each volume of the *Jefferson*.

In his Introduction to *Young Washington*, Mr. Freeman observes that "nearly as much of the life of a man is set down in the letters addressed to him as in those written by him." With Jefferson this is not only true in general, but in some correspondences the inletters are of greater value than Jefferson's own. Examples are his exchange of letters wih Eli Whitney on the cotton gin in 1793, his exchange with D. B. Lee on transportation by air in 1822, and, still more strikingly, in his correspondence with Gen. William Clark in 1807 on fossil excavations at the Big Bone Lick. Jefferson had a really boyish enthusiasm for fossils. In the fall of 1807, at his own expense, he engaged Clark to conduct a thorough search of the fossil area at Big Bone Lick in Kentucky. The bones Clark dug up and shipped — some 300 — were divided between the American Philosophical Society and the Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle in Paris, the latter group forming the basis of Baron Cuvier's fundamental studies in paleontology. The Big Bone Lick excavations and Jefferson's part in the founding of paleontological science have been exhaustively written about, but none of the learned historians of the science have, apparently, looked through the letters Jefferson received. If they had, they would have come upon a twelve-page letter Clark wrote to Jefferson from Louisville on 10 Nov. 1807. This, in the opinion of experts, is one of the best reports on early paleontological research that survives, and it is at the same time, in the opinion of anyone who can read, a wonderfully entertaining document. When one begins to quote

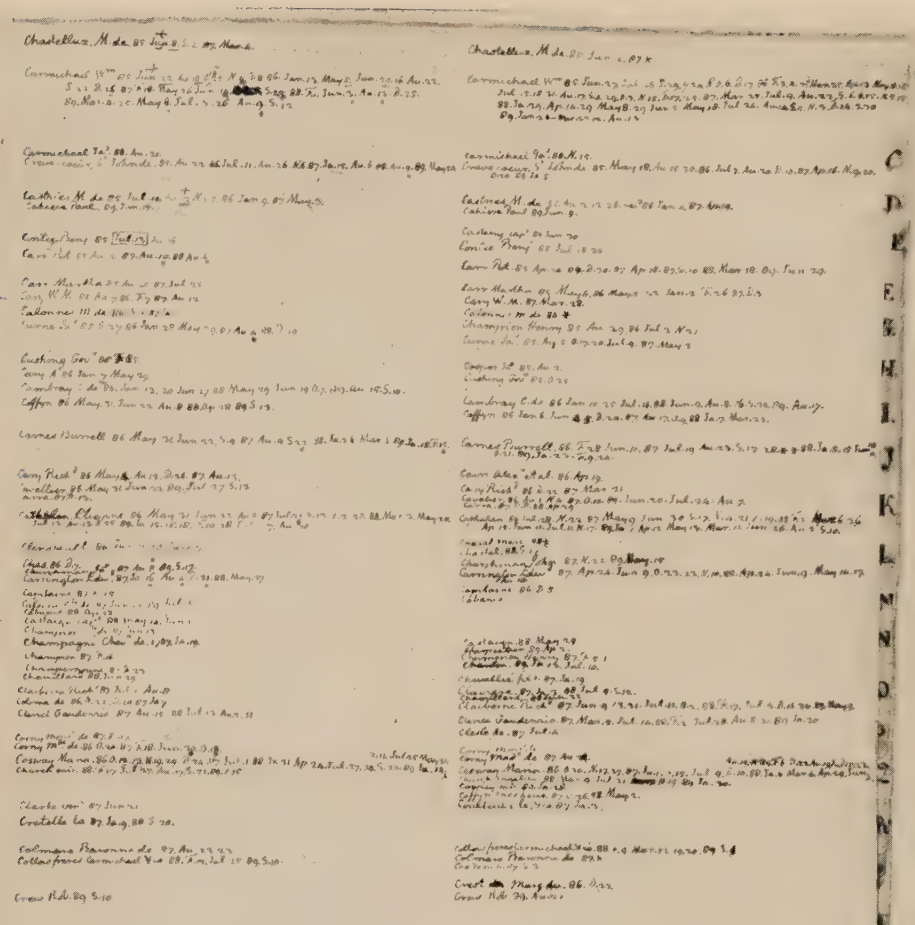
from it, one cannot stop, and so I must forbear altogether. It goes without saying that letters of this caliber we plan to publish entire. But a great many of the in-letters, particularly those of a routine nature, will be summarized. The availability of a letter elsewhere in print will influence our decisions on this point. The location of the MS. and of printed texts, if any are available, will of course always be given for the documents summarized.

The operation of gathering the materials to reconstruct the Jefferson archives began with certain obvious steps. The main mass of Jefferson's "official papers" (the term is a very loose one) became the property of the United States in 1848 and, since the beginning of this century, has been in the custody of the Library of Congress. In 1944 the Library was in the process of recataloguing and microfilming its Jefferson collection and was gathering in, as well, microcopies of other major Jefferson collections. We became the Library's collaborators in the latter operation, and by the beginning of 1945 had received and processed prints of some 31,000 Jefferson documents in the L.C., the Massachusetts Historical Society, and the Historical Society of Pennsylvania; during 1945 about 14,000 further documents were added from several large Virginia repositories, the New-York Historical Society, the American Philosophical Society, the Huntington Library, the New York Public, and the Pierpont Morgan Libraries. In 1946 and 1947 the large holdings of the Missouri State Historical Society, the Virginia State Library (a second crop), and several large private repositories were rounded up. A systematic search at The National Archives was begun before the end of 1947 but was interrupted and has not yet been completed. Soon after our operations started, the inflow of material from smaller repositories and private collections began. Though at times it has shrunk to a trickle, it has never dried up. Nearly eighty documents a month were accessioned during 1948.

We have done everything we could within reason — and sometimes perhaps without much reason, though with definite advantages — to stimulate and maintain the flow. In a sense we have been concerned more, as in the Scriptural story, with the fugitive one than with the dutiful ninety-nine. A case in point is the mission to the Otoe Indian reservation in 1946 to obtain a photostat of one of Jefferson's addresses to a delegation of Indian chiefs. This was the only such paper known to survive in the custody of any tribe that had received messages from Jefferson, and so was of some



A page from Jefferson's Index to Letters Written and Received (Epistolary Record), containing the entries for 4 November-30 December 1785. Original in the Library of Congress.



A page from Jefferson's alphabetical index to his Epistolary Record while minister to France. Original in the Library of Congress.

sentimental interest. Furthermore it was owned communally by the whole tribe, and its custody had become a warm political issue within the tribe. Like Conrad Weiser or Sir William Johnson in another age, we found it worthwhile to subscribe to the Indians' deep sense of protocol. And I may add that, upon our return to our desks, we found that a dozen or so other Jefferson documents had emerged from their hiding places as a result of the publicity attendant on our Otoe mission.

Besides publicity, both grave and gay, we have sent out many hundreds of direct-mail appeals to likely quarters — to librarians, patriotic societies, dealers, collectors, descendants of Jefferson and of his correspondents. Leads have come from all directions, and we have chased many a will-o-the-wisp with as much vigor as if it were a bundle of love letters exchanged by Thomas Jefferson and Martha Wayles Skelton. Friends of Jefferson and friends of ours, some of whom never become known to us by name, prod others who own Jefferson autographs to send us photostats. They also write us about Jeffersonian utterances and allusions in out-of-the-way printed sources: in the *Minneapolis Journal* for 26 February 1902; in a German broadside found in the Hessian Archives in Marburg; in abolitionist periodicals and pamphlets; in travel books; and so on. We welcome information of this kind with the warmest feelings of gratitude. A fifty-first volume may have to be devoted to acknowledgments to our many collaborators, but the preceding fifty will be immeasurably richer for their efforts.

Printed bibliographies, guides (such as the Carnegie series on foreign archives), catalogues of manuscript collections, bookseller's catalogues, and auction records have likewise furnished grist to our mill. The Jefferson Checklist at the University of Virginia, an annotated card catalogue of both published and unpublished writings, has proved inestimably helpful. Everyone who has worked with Jefferson knows of the unique aid he himself left in the form of a register of all his correspondence. This "epistolary record" becomes reliable at the time Jefferson succeeded Franklin as our minister in France and continues in an unbroken series of entries until ten days before he died. The period covered is over forty years; the entries for twenty-four of these years are indexed alphabetically by correspondent; and the whole document extends to 656 pages. The Epistolary Record is useful to us in important ways besides telling us what we must hunt for; it is, for example, an almost magical means of establishing the dates of undated or mutilated letters.

Finally, we go out and sniff the air and hunt for Jefferson documents. In 1795 Jeremy Belknap wrote his friend Ebenezer Hazard about his recent trip to Connecticut to gather in the great collection of Trumbull papers now reposing in the Massachusetts Historical Society. He expected, he said, to get some other papers from Governor Hancock's estate, "and when our old patriot S[am] A[dams]'s head is laid, we hope to get more. There is nothing like having a *good repository*, and keeping a *good look-out*, not waiting at home for things to fall into the lap, but prowling about like a wolf for the prey." This is as sound a working principle now as it was then.

The search so far has netted just over 50,000 separate documents. This seemed a good point at which to make an analysis of our record of sources, the results of which I am pleased to present. These 50,000 pieces have been drawn from 423 different sources, namely 242 private owners (including dealers) and 181 institutional owners (including clubs, banks, commercial firms, and schools, besides institutions primarily devoted to the preservation of historical materials). The private owners have contributed about 1400 documents as compared with about 48,600 from institutional sources. A breakdown according to size of contribution shows that 192 private and institutional sources have contributed only a single document apiece; 134 have contributed from 2 to 5 documents; 61 have contributed from 6 to 25; 18 have contributed from 26 to 100; 9 have contributed from 101 to 500. At this point the private contributors drop out. Five institutions have contributed between 501 and 1000 documents; 2 have contributed from 1001 to 5000; and 2 have contributed more than 5000 documents.

The geographical distribution of our sources in the continental United States is shown in the following table.

I. From 1 to 10 documents have been located in

Alabama	Louisiana	Oregon
Colorado	Minnesota	Vermont
Florida	Mississippi	Washington
Iowa	Nebraska	Wyoming
Kansas	Oklahoma	West Virginia

II. From 11 to 100 documents have been located in

Delaware	Maine	Rhode Island	Wisconsin
Georgia	New Hampshire	South Carolina	
Indiana	North Carolina	Tennessee	
Kentucky	Ohio	Texas	

III. From 101 to 500 documents have been located in
Connecticut Maryland New Jersey
Illinois Michigan

IV. From 501 to 1000 documents have been located in
Missouri

V. From 1001 to 5000 documents have been located in
California New York Pennsylvania

VI. More than 5000 documents have been located in
District of Columbia Virginia
Massachusetts

Among the 40 states (including the District of Columbia) where Jeffersonian material has been located, six have contributed a single document each, while the District of Columbia alone has contributed over half of our total holdings, specifically 28,248 documents. We are not wholly satisfied with the situation that this table reflects. The concentration of sources in the East was predictable from historical causes, but it is unquestionably exaggerated by the fact that the eastern territory has been more thoroughly scoured. It is hardly credible, for example, that there are no Jefferson papers at all in several states through which Lewis and Clark traveled, or that in the great State of Texas there is only one owner of Jefferson autograph material.

An additional word should be said about sources outside the continental United States. Two territories (Hawaii and Puerto Rico) have contributed to our file; also Canada, Australia, and seven countries in Europe. The European countries have contributed about in proportion as they have been scoured; thus France, Holland, and Switzerland, where Mr. Howard C. Rice has personally searched, have made substantial contributions, but our efforts to work by remote control, as in the British Isles, have been relatively unfruitful.

This brings me to a consideration of the searching that remains to be done. The figures given in my analysis above are bound to be altered substantially very soon by the accession of a very large body of material from The National Archives which has been located and filmed but which, on account of our lack of shelf-space before moving into the Firestone Memorial Library, has not been accessioned. An estimated 5,000 Jefferson documents have been located there, the great bulk of them in the General Records of the Department of State, and especially in the Miscellaneous Letters and Diplomatic and Consular Correspondence. Important groups and

estrays have also been drawn from the National Resources Records and the War Records in the Archives. We anticipate another 2,000 or so documents, principally from the Appointment and Pardon Papers in the State Department Records and from the Senate and House of Representatives files in the Legislative Records.

There is besides, as we are acutely but at the moment helplessly aware, a good deal of searching yet to be done among the holdings of the Division of Manuscripts in the Library of Congress. Between thirty and forty of the L. C. collections, some of them running to many thousand pieces, have been listed for examination as known or likely sources of Jefferson material. We have had, meanwhile, the inestimable benefit of Mrs. Vincent Eaton's help in furnishing us with lists of the Jefferson items in several of the major L. C. collections, most notably in the Washington and Madison Papers. Only a beginning has been made on the great L. C. collection of manuscripts reproduced from foreign archives relating to American history. The coördination of this search with direct searches of the foreign depositories is a large problem so far only partially worked out.

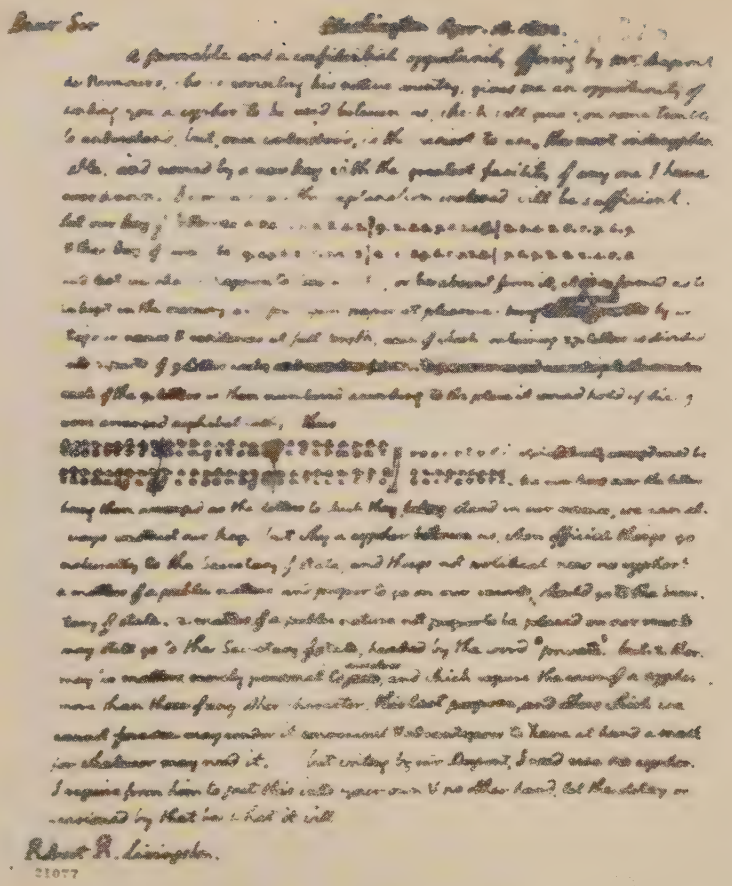
It will appear from this that the staff of three editors has its hands full and its work laid out. It will also perhaps help explain why copy has not reached the press and the volumes have not reached the public any faster.

I turn now to a brief account of our handling of the material when it reaches us in the form of photofacsimiles.

III

Our processing is extremely simple. A yellow control slip, perforated in triplicate, is typed for each document and carries on it the date, the name of the writer (and recipient, if the document is a letter), the number of pages (exposures), the source, and the accession number. The accession number is stamped on the back of each page of the document facsimile. The document — and from this point I drop the term facsimile — is placed in a manila envelope marked with the same data. The perforated control slips are then separated and distributed in three files: a chronological file, an alphabetical file (letters being filed under the name of the writer or recipient *other than Jefferson*), and an accession file.

Into the envelopes, which are filed on open shelves in chronological order, go the transcripts and other editorial matter pertinent to a given document, and also variant or duplicate copies of



Dear Sir Washington Apr. 18. 1802.

A favorable and a confidential opportunity, offering by Mr Dupont de Nemours, who is recurring his native country, gives me an opportunity of sending you a cypher to be used between us, which will spare you some trouble to understand. but once understood, is the easiest to use, the most indecypherable, and varied by a new key with the greatest facility, of any one I have ever known. I am in hopes the explanation inclosed will be sufficient. Let our key of letters be 6.5.1.2 7.9.8.4.3. | 9 2.3.1.7.6.5.4.8. | 3 1.4 2.8 5 7 6.9.

& the key of lines be 9.4.7 6 1.8.5.2.3 | 2. 1 8.9 6.5 7.3.4 | 7.6.9.3 1.2 4.5.8

and lest we should happen to lose our key or be absent from it, it is so formed as to be kept in the memory and put upon paper at pleasure; being made by writing our names & residences at full length, each of which containing 27 letters is divided into 3. parts of 9 letters each; each of the 9 letters is then numbered according to the place it would hold if the 9 were arranged alphabetically. Thus.

robertrlivingstonofclermont | robertrlivingstonofclermont alphabetically arranged would be

thomasjeffersonofmonticello | cceefhiinnoooorsttt. the numbers over the letters being then arranged as the letters to which they belong stand in our names, we can always construct our key. but shd a cypher between us, when official things go naturally to the Secretary of state, and things not political need no cypher? 1. matters of a public nature, and proper to go on our records, should go to the Secretary of state. 2. matters of a public nature not proper to be placed on our records may still go to the Secretary of state, headed by the word "private". but 3. there may be matters merely personal to ourselves, and which require the cover of a cypher more than those of any other character. this last purpose, and others which we cannot foresee may render it convenient & advantageous to have at hand a mask for whatever may need it. but writing by mr Dupont, I need use no cypher. I require from him to put this into your own & no other hand, let the delay occasioned by that be what it will.

Robert R. Livingston.

From Jefferson's letter to Robert R. Livingston, 18 April 1802. The semi-legible press copy retained by Jefferson. Original in the Library of Congress.

From the recipient's copy of Jefferson's letter to Livingston. The code can now be read. Original in the Museum of the City of New York.

the document itself. For the letters Jefferson himself wrote, the theoretical expectation is to find two facsimiles in our file — one being the copy he retained, and the other the copy he sent. The recipient's copy is usually the more desirable on two counts: first, because press copies are often only semi-legible (though the polygraph, which replaced the letterpress in 1804, made perfect copies), and, second, because the recipient's copy bears a direction, postal markings, endorsement, etc. The copies sent are of course more difficult to obtain, because they must be picked up individually or in small groups all over the map. In some instances we cannot transcribe a letter until we locate the copy sent. A spectacular example is Jefferson's letter to Robert R. Livingston of 18 April 1802, instructing him, as minister to France, to acquire New Orleans for the United States. The text of this momentous document has often been printed but never in full, because the press copy in the Library of Congress is not completely legible. Recently the Museum of the City of New York acquired from a descendant of Livingston the original copy sent. Readers who compare the initial pages of the two texts, as reproduced in the accompanying illustration, will understand why our search continues.

To record missing documents we have used blue slips perforated in triplicate like the yellow ones. (A "missing" document is any Jefferson paper whose existence is verified but which has not yet been found in manuscript form.) The blue slips bear as much data as we can obtain on the fugitive item. Our principal sources of information about missing items are the Epistolary Record, auction records, and printed works, such as the great documentary collections like Force, contemporary newspapers, and the memoirs and writings of Jefferson's contemporaries. A continuous search through the whole body of printed source materials, from Jefferson's time to ours, goes on in our office. It has produced some surprises — including the ferreting out of one group of 149 autograph letters in private hands — and it is an absorbing if interminable task. The printings of documents discovered in the course of the search are recorded on the control cards in the chronological file. This information is often useful in annotating a given document; sometimes it provides a printed text that is more satisfactory than the original manuscript itself, because prepared before the original had deteriorated.

An important subsidiary file in the Jefferson Office is the bibliography of publications by and about Jefferson and his contempo-

raries. This is kept on cards, of which there are now over 6,000, and the entries under Jefferson as subject are classified under such appropriate heads and sub-heads as "Agriculture — Plows," "Campaign Literature," "Jews, Relations with," "Medicine — Vaccination," "Portraits," "Visitors," and so on. We are always eager to enlarge our file of allusions to Jefferson in both published and unpublished writings of his day, and have supplemented our main document file with a considerable body of typescripts and photoduplicates of material under the rubric of "Contemporary Comment."

IV

A brief account of the plan of the edition will conclude this paper.

About four-fifths of the material to be printed will be arranged in a single chronological sequence, making up volumes 1 to 40 and embracing all the correspondence, all messages, reports, bills, and dated and datable memoranda. The remaining fifth of the material is being gradually segregated for printing in a classified series, assumed to be volumes 41 to 50, which will embrace, first, Jefferson's larger published and unpublished writings and papers (the *Notes on Virginia*, *Parliamentary Manual*, Autobiography, Anas, "Life and Morals of Jesus," the Anglo-Saxon grammar, Account Books, Farm and Garden Books, etc.), and, second, such other papers as can be most satisfactorily used and edited in classified groups, e.g., the Legal Papers, the Architectural Drawings, and the Maps and Surveys. For the three groups of papers last mentioned, arrangements have been made for more or less independent editing by specialists.

A separate supplementary volume is planned as a biographical register or dictionary for the entire work. It will contain concise sketches of all of Jefferson's correspondents and of other persons mentioned in the work who had significant or continuing relations with Jefferson. In treating well-known figures (say Madison or Vergennes), emphasis will be placed upon their *connection with Jefferson*; for obscurer figures (Jefferson's French cook, or the Brazilian adventurer José da Maia), an effort will be made to be more exhaustive. The advantages to readers in having a separate volume, in which they can readily find the master footnote on any given person, are obvious. The advantage to the editors is likewise obvious, for the editorial notes will by this device be relieved of a great deal of matter, much of it repetitive.

Plans for indexing call tentatively for a throw-away index for

every five volumes of text, with a cumulative index in the required number of volumes at the end.

As for annotation, we have arrived after a good deal of thought and experimenting at the conclusion that exhaustive annotation of such a large mass of documents is not feasible, even if it were desirable. We have stated that our purpose in annotating is to provide information essential to understanding each document presented. Ideally considered, such a purpose would frequently entail a prodigious amount of research in order to set forth the archival and bibliographical history of each document and assess its historical significance; to identify or explain all persons, events, and places, and to point out Jefferson's relationship therewith; to separate fact from rumor; to explain obsolete, technical, and regional terms; to trace literary quotations to their sources; to furnish references to the pertinent literature; and so on. All this and more is "essential to understanding the document" in the fullest sense of the term. Yet to place no restriction on such a purpose would confuse the functions, on the one hand, of biographers and historians and, on the other, of editors. It would not infrequently produce explanatory material well in excess of the documents explained, and it would add to the considerable task of the editor a burden greater than that even assumed by the biographer or historian, since they can and must select, whereas the editor cannot do so.

The providing of "information essential to understanding the document" does not, according to our interpretation, oblige us to explain those common allusions to person, events, places, and terms which the specialist may be presumed to know or which he may find in sources or reference works as readily accessible to him as to the editors. Notes on these topics will, however, be furnished when the editors find themselves in possession of new facts gathered in the ordinary editorial process or when they have necessarily explored sources not readily accessible. Furthermore, routine standards will not be applied in annotating documents that are of special importance or that present unusual features or problems. In other words, we shall try, in our capacity as editors, to solve such problems as we can and to show the way toward the solution of as many others as we can. In so doing we hope to improve upon our predecessors, most of whom have been conspicuously irresponsible in these matters, and to approach the stature of the late and very great editor Edmund C. Burnett. But we do not propose to arro-

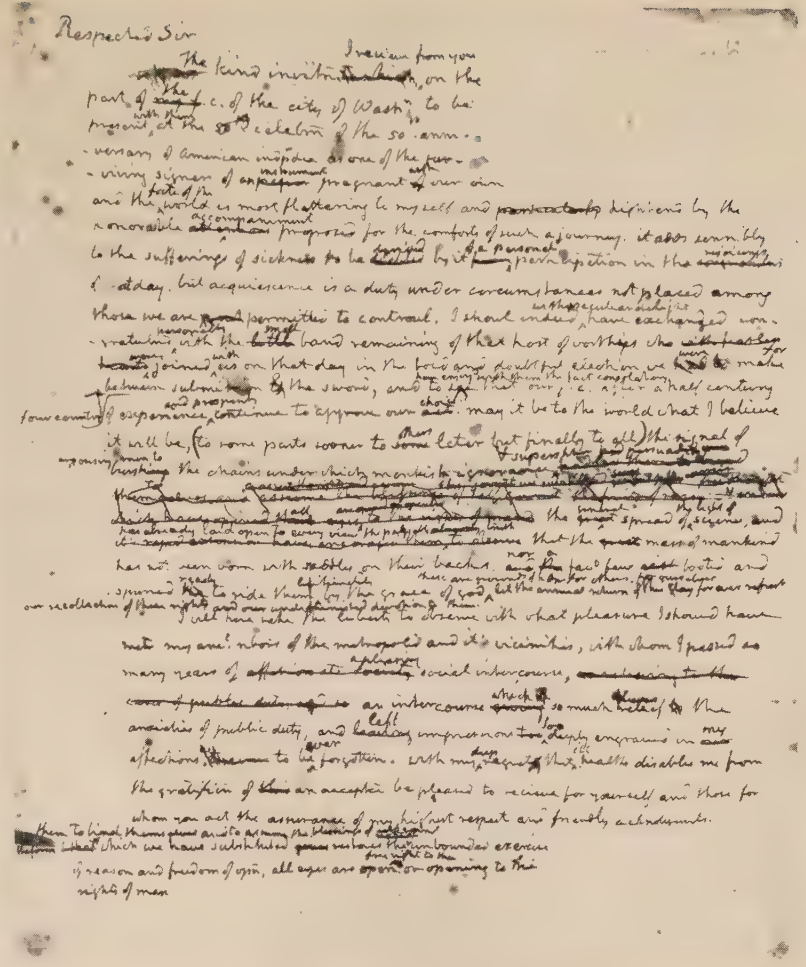
gate to ourselves the whole vast scholarly province of Jefferson and his times.

The *form* of annotation we have settled upon may sound at first as if it were more ingenious than practical; but we have found it admirably flexible, and we believe it will best suit the widely varying purposes of readers. There will be a *single inclusive footnote* for all except very long or very special kinds of documents. It will be printed, in double-column and in a smaller point of type, immediately following the document to which it pertains, not at the foot of the page. The note will always be divided into at least two, and sometimes into three, sections or paragraphs. The first section is *descriptive* and will furnish physical data, such as the nature of the document (whether a draft, a recipient's copy, etc), the location of the original and of other copies if known, the address and endorsement, notation of enclosures, comment (when called for) on the handwriting or the condition of the manuscript, and the like.

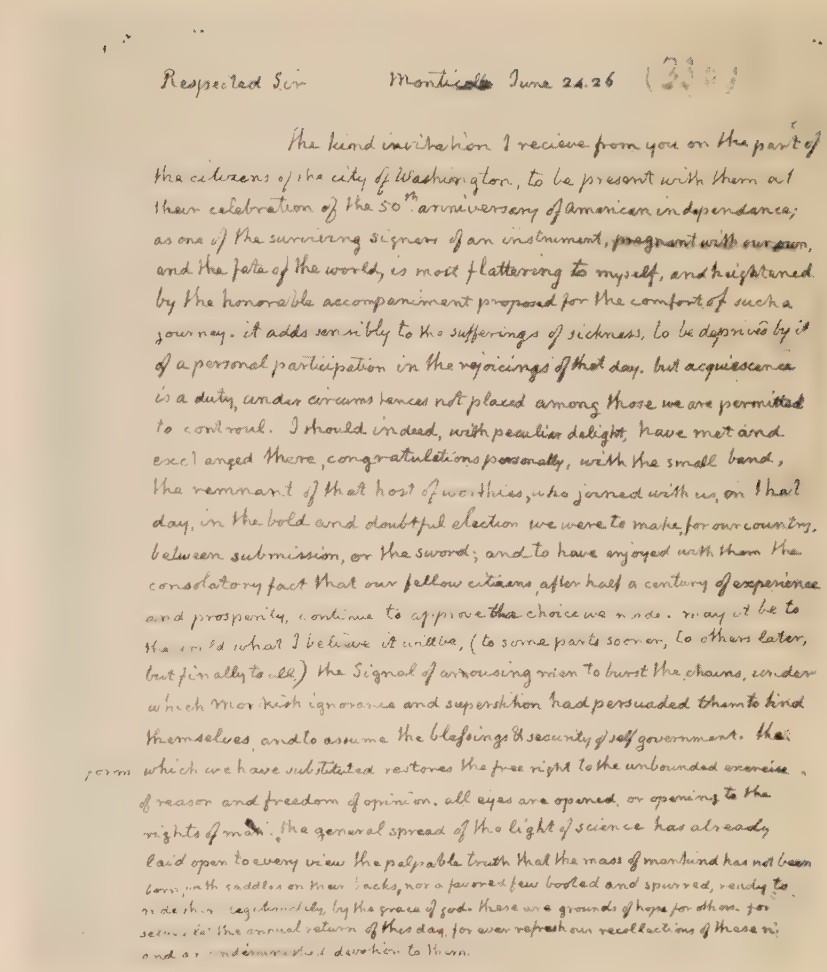
The second section (or paragraph) of the inclusive note is *explanatory*. Within the limitations stated above, it will be a combined commentary and series of explanations of particular topics in the document. The key words of the topics annotated will be printed in small capitals in the note, so that the eye may readily travel from an allusion in the text to the point where it is treated in the note. The source of each item of information will follow that item parenthetically in the explanatory note. For this purpose short titles will be employed for all works commonly cited. A list of these, with their expanded forms, will be printed periodically, probably with each installment of the index, and the cumulative bibliography at the end of the work will constitute a union list of all short titles used.

A third section (or paragraph) will appear in the inclusive note only when a document presents special problems, such as variations between a draft and a fair copy, matter lined out that deserves to be recorded, and the like. These *textual* notes will be keyed to the text by means of superscript numerals. Except in the case of documents of special literary or historical significance (such as the *Notes on Virginia* and the great state papers), we have not committed ourselves to recording every textual variation between extant copies.

Our decisions on presenting the texts themselves are the product of much thought and conscience-searching on our part, together with an abundance of advice and admonition from without. We have recognized from the outset what some editors have never



Draft of letter to Mayor Weightman of Washington, 24 June 1826. Illustrating Jefferson's habits of composition and the importance of collating drafts with fair copies. Original in the Massachusetts Historical Society.



Fair copy of the letter to Weightman, made on Jefferson's polygraph and retained by him. This letter was sent ten days before Jefferson died. Original in the Library of Congress.

been willing to recognize, namely, that type cannot *simulate* manuscript, for we hold that the first duty of an editor is to present a text that can be *read*, not a set of typographical and editorial hieroglyphics. Briefly, we have determined to retain faithfully the spelling, grammar, capitalization, and punctuation of the manuscripts, though we shall regularly capitalize the first words of sentences and shall clarify punctuation when it is confusing. Except when they are proper names, obscure and awkward contractions will be expanded, but they will be retained in the date-line and complimentary close of letters and in business papers and tabular documents of all kinds. Documents of great textual significance and complexity will not be subject to these general rules of normalization.

I have given here only a sampling of the editorial problems that have demanded tentative solutions before sending off copy of the first thousand of the 50,000 documents confronting us. In grappling daily with these problems, we find ourselves repeatedly amazed by the lack of reliable information on many phases of Jefferson's career. Resort to the entries in our distended bibliographical file is fruitless not only for answers to myriads of small questions of biographical import, but, worse than this, it is impossible to find full and reliable accounts of such capital matters as the revision of the Virginia laws, the history of the Democratic-Republican party, Jefferson's appointments as President, his Indian linguistic studies, his Indian policy as President, and his introduction of Anglo-Saxon into the American college curriculum. The documentation to be presented in the Papers of Thomas Jefferson will throw light on all these and a host of other imperfectly charted or quite uncharted areas in our political and cultural history.

From this point of view we can regard ourselves as pathfinders. In the same breath I must add that editing Jefferson's papers is an efficacious means of cultivating humility. To do the job properly we should *be* Jeffersons. The acute and ever-present sense of how far we fall below that standard is humbling.

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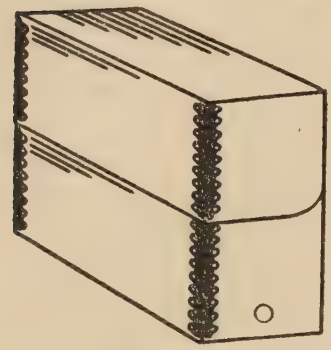

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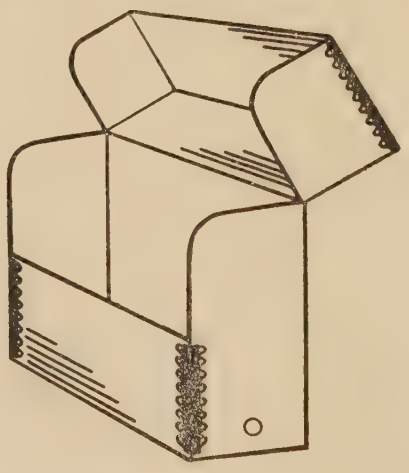

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The Twelfth Annual Meeting of the Society of American Archivists[1]

By WILLIAM J. VAN SCHREEVEN

Head Archivist
Virginia State Library

AT THE direction of the Council the twelfth annual meeting of the Society of American Archivists was planned jointly with the American Association for State and Local History. Most of the sessions were held in the Sir Walter Hotel with arrangements made by D. L. Corbitt and his committee on local arrangements. Mr. Corbitt also arranged a one day tour of the Duke University Library at Durham, and the University of North Carolina Library at Chapel Hill. Each institution tendered a complimentary meal and entertained the members of the societies with true southern hospitality.

The opening session held at Raleigh on the subject "Reference Problems as Viewed by the Reader" was presided over by Christopher Crittenden. The first paper was presented by Charles S. Sydnor of the Department of History of Duke University. Mr. Sydnor approached his topic "What the historian expects of an archival agency or historical society" by indicating that the historian would like to have descriptions, indices and other finding aids to the records. Although detailed cataloging and indexing were a highly desirable desiderata, he would prefer a generalized description of many collections rather than a detailed analysis of only a few outstanding record groups. There was also a need, Dr. Sydnor stated, of more frequent and ample communication between archivist and historian. The archivist's knowledge of the collections in his custody could be of great value both in assisting the historian in his selected topic, or in suggesting suitable topics that might be exploited by historians and graduate students. Milton Rubincam, past president of the National Genealogical Society, next presented a paper on "What the genealogist expects of an archival agency or historical society." Mr. Rubincam stressed the fact that modern genealogical research is being done on a scholarly and professional

[1] Held at Raleigh, North Carolina, October 27, 28, 29, 1948.

basis. A skilled genealogist can provide great auxiliary aids to history. Mr. Rubincam pointed out that genealogists represent a majority of customers at archival agencies. Detailed indexes were highly desirable and other aids to the records were needed by genealogists. The speaker suggested that a staff member be delegated to serve as a genealogical advisor. The centralization of state and local records was also touched upon, although the speaker showed his awareness of the dangers of centralization. Connecticut was cited as an example of a state that has done much toward gathering and indexing genealogical records.

At the luncheon conference held the first day, Roger Boyle, director of the symphonic drama, "The Common Glory," presided, and introduced the speaker, Paul Green, author of "The Common Glory" and "The Lost Colony." Mr. Green discussed his conception of a true peoples theatre as realized in the symphonic dramas at Roanoke Island, and Jamestown. He drew upon his personal experiences at Hollywood and Broadway, and suggested that symphonic dramas based on the nation's history would bring about a deeper and more widespread appreciation of the nation's past.

The afternoon session had as a central theme the topic, "Reference problems as viewed by the administrator." D. L. Corbitt of the North Carolina Department of Archives and History presided and briefly outlined his conception of reference problems confronted by the administrator. The first speaker, Leon DeValinger, State Archivist of Delaware, presented his paper on "How reference problems are handled by the Delaware Hall of Records." He stressed the growing demand for reference service, and outlined the manner in which the Delaware Hall of Records is coping with the problem. The basic law governing the Public Archives Commission indicated that Delaware's records were to be made available in the reference room of the Hall of Records, or through publication. Extensive genealogical and historical research is precluded. Although the main emphasis is placed on research work done on the premises; queries from a distance are not ignored. Citizens of Delaware are given first consideration. Requests for information are first acknowledged through a form indicating the request has been received and will be answered as promptly as possible. With his small staff Mr. DeValinger feels his first duty is accessioning, classifying, restoring and caring for the records in his custody; mail requests must yield to more important and required duties. However all requests are faithfully answered. No suitable form

letter has been devised to answer the various inquiries. Vague and general genealogical questions are answered by suggesting a trained genealogist be employed. Requests for specific information available in indexes and other finding aids are answered in accordance with the information located. As one solution to the reference problem, Mr. DeValinger suggested the possibility of patriotic societies employing a genealogist to work in the archival agency, and whose duty would be to make detailed genealogical investigations. The next speaker, W. Neil Franklin, head of the Reference Division in the National Archives, related "How reference problems are handled by the National Archives." One of the first problems is to translate the reference request into terms of the agency's holdings. This is done by a thorough knowledge of the administrative history of the Federal Government. It is often necessary to examine a number of record groups to give a complete answer to an inquiry. The need for finding aids was stressed, and the National Archives with its numerous staff is beset with the same paucity of too few finding aids. Some attention has been given to the amount of time devoted to a specific reference question; an attempt is made to screen questions asked out of idle curiosity from queries requesting vitally needed information, or research which might result in a substantial contribution to scholarship. In the latter category the National Archives occasionally prepares comprehensive reports. The file microcopy program whereby a distant scholar can secure microcopies of certain complete record groups solves certain reference requests. Mr. Franklin concluded his paper by discussing the procedure and rules followed by the National Archives for researchers who desire to use the material in the reading room of the institution. A card of admission is issued, and the researcher is interviewed in order to assist him in his approach to the vast body of records. Miss Dorothy Barck delivered the last paper of this session, "How reference problems are handled by the New York Historical Society." She pointed out the differences between her institution, and an organization solely devoted to archival and manuscript materials. Questions may come to the New York Historical Society pertaining to paintings, china, artifacts, furniture, books, newspapers, maps, as well as manuscripts. A well rounded knowledge of all the collections is needed by the reference worker, but specialists are also available in each field. Often a single question can only be answered by consulting various different types of collections. Although members of the Society are given prompt

and thorough reference service, the general public is also given every consideration in the use of the society's collections.

A diversion from the sessions of the first day was planned in the form of a complimentary tea served at the Governor's Mansion to members of the two organizations.

Miss Margaret Norton presided at the annual dinner, and introduced Christopher Crittenden who delivered his presidential address on "The Archivist as a Public Servant." The progress of archival techniques and practises during the past ten years was noted, but much remains to be done. The shift of emphasis from a historical scholar as archivist, toward an administrator who views records not only as relics of the dead past, but who took positive steps toward current record problems has characterized recent archival development. The archivist's primary duty, according to President Crittenden, is to preserve and protect records, to bring these records under control and to make them available to the public. A program for current records administration is essential. The archivist should consider himself as a public servant, and offer services to other governmental agencies, private researchers, and the general public. The question was posed if professional standards should not be raised. In conclusion the speaker recommended the formation of a committee on long-range planning for archival problems.

The meetings held the second day were held at Duke University and the University of North Carolina. The first institution visited was Duke University. Here the members toured the campus, and small groups were taken in escorted tours through the library. Graham Roberts, curator of manuscripts, described the techniques and arrangements in practise for the manuscript collection. Carl Lokke, of the National Archives, presided at the complimentary luncheon tendered by Duke University. Benjamin E. Powell, university librarian, gave a brief speech of welcome, and John Jennings of the Virginia Historical Society gave the principal address on "University Archives." The history of the establishment of university archives was sketched; librarians first showed an awareness of the need for the preservation of the archival records of colleges and universities. At the outset the tendency was to intermingle historical manuscripts and archives. Unusual arrangements were resorted to that in some cases destroyed the integrity of archival groups. The term "archivist" was construed broadly in the sense the archivist was the custodian of

sundry historical collections which might include part of the institution's official records. However librarians and others have contributed much toward the preservation of college or university archives, and many institutions are aware that a records program based on sound archival practises is a need that must be met. Many institutions of higher learning throughout the country are embarking on archival programs. Mr. Jennings listed an amazing number of colleges and universities that are taking positive steps in this direction. An university archival program has a better chance of success if based on an archival statute enacted by the governing body of the institution. Some danger exists in placing the university archivist on the librarian's staff, although librarians are becoming increasingly aware of archival economy. The university archivist might operate best if independent. In this case he would report directly to the institutional executive. Where possible such a solution is better than appending the archivist to the library, or devolving archival responsibilities to the alumni office, the institutional secretary, or a similar office.

At the conclusion of the interesting and stimulating meeting at Duke, the group proceeded to Chapel Hill, where some time was spent in touring the campus of the University of North Carolina, and in examining the magnificent Southern Historical Collection in the university library. A. R. Newsome, a member of the history faculty and a past president of the society, presided at the session at which James W. Patton, curator of the Southern Historical Collection, described the genesis and growth of the collection through the untiring efforts of J. G. De Roulhac Hamilton. The extent and types of manuscripts in the collection was outlined; and the speaker mentioned the methods of handling the manuscript materials. The future plans for the Southern Historical Collection in the proposed addition to the library building were also discussed.

Edward P. Alexander of Colonial Williamsburg presided at the complimentary dinner given by the University of North Carolina. After a few remarks of welcome to Chapel Hill by R. B. House, University of North Carolina, Lyman H. Butterfield of Princeton University, delivered the main address on "The Papers of Thomas Jefferson: Some Archival and Editorial Phases of the Princeton Enterprise." The talk was accompanied by exhibits illustrating various phases of this great editorial project. The method of collecting and arranging the photoprints of the papers was mentioned. All possible sources are examined to make the edition as definitive

as possible, and every effort is made to locate missing items. Letters to and from Jefferson are to be included. Much work is done in annotating the copy; in some cases lengthy researches and reports are necessary to clear up obscure points. Through the use of new techniques the edition of the papers of Thomas Jefferson will be one of the most comprehensive scholarly editorial works ever undertaken.

The morning meeting of the third day's sessions was held in the Hall of History of the North Carolina Department of Archives and History. Wayne C. Grover, Archivist of the United States, presided at the meeting which had for its theme the "History and Program of State Archival Agencies." William D. McCain, Director of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, traced the development of his department. Largely through the work of Franklin L. Riley the Mississippi Department of Archives and History was established in 1902. Dunbar Rowland was selected the first director. He began acquiring the non-current records of the state and arranged, cleaned and sorted the material. A guide was issued to the collections upon completion of this work. Portraits, private manuscripts, newspapers and books were acquired. Rowland also embarked on an ambitious publication program, and ultimately his entire attention was devoted to writing, editing and publishing. Volume after volume flowed from his pen, but the archival program suffered accordingly. The speaker assumed the post of director upon the death of Dunbar Rowland, and tackled the problem of dealing with the state's non-current records. The department is sorely pressed for space, and while some records can be accepted from other state departments there is no intention "to become a filing agency for the various departments of the state government." Private manuscripts are constantly added, and these are arranged and inventoried. Essential books and pamphlets pertaining to Mississippi history are being added, and the museum is permitted to remain in a dormant state until proper provision can be provided. The publication program has been sharply curtailed, and the money expended for this program has been diverted to the purchase of equipment, books, and manuscripts. Attention has been given to securing a trained personnel, and salary scales have been successfully raised. Reference work and public relations receive a due share of attention, and the director makes many speeches throughout the state. Local historical societies are encouraged, and an appropriation has been secured to erect historical markers.

The next speaker, Clifford L. Lord, director of the Wisconsin

Historical Society, discussed the recently inaugurated archival program in Wisconsin based on the public records act of 1947. This act establishes a permanent Committee on Public Records consisting of the attorney-general, the state auditor, and the director of the State Historical Society, or their deputies. The financial, legal and historical value of the state's public records are considered by this committee for all records which departments wish to destroy. The department head must furnish to the Committee on Public Records a certified list of records deemed unnecessary. The Archivist of the Wisconsin Historical Society inspects and evaluates the records, and is in a position to suggest methods of records control. Unfortunately the Wisconsin Historical Society does not have space to accept those records which should be preserved as having permanent historical value. A building for this purpose is needed; for the present the agency of origin must retain such records. The experience gained in handling historical manuscripts will be applied to public records, on that future day when adequate facilities will be provided for the archives of Wisconsin.

The third speaker, Henry Howard Eddy, newly appointed chief of the Division of Public Records of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, discussed Pennsylvania's proposed archival program. In the past the main emphasis has been publication; unfortunately many of the records were printed in an indifferent and unscholarly manner. The speaker sketched the efforts to establish a real archival program in Pennsylvania, and outlined plans for the future. Record disposal procedures have been established, and non-current records are being surveyed. The future program envisages an adequate archival building.

Solon J. Buck presided at the luncheon session. He discussed his work to bring about a world council on archives, and introduced Herbert O. Brayer, Secretary-General, International Council on Archives, who delivered his talk on this body with particular emphasis on the theme that it was an experiment in world cooperation. He described the many barriers in the way of such a program, and ended his address with a plea that the Society of American Archivists assist the work of the Council with financial assistance.

During the afternoon session the topic under discussion was "Collectors and Historical Depositories: Common Interests and Mutual Benefits." Lester J. Cappon of Colonial Williamsburg Inc. presided and introduced the first speaker, Colton Storm, of the William L. Clements Library. He sketched briefly the history of

collecting and the use of cooperation between collectors and librarians. Cooperation was almost entirely one-sided on the part of the collector. Buying by institutions should be coordinated with the enthusiasms of collectors, who should be allowed to share the problems of the library. Collectors should be invited to join the Society of American Archivists and kindred associations. Through mutual cooperation between collector and institution can come mutual benefits and help. Forrest Sweet of Battle Creek, Michigan, discussed the "Cooperating Depository." The newly founded organization, The National Society of Autograph Collectors, offers great possibilities for exchange of information between collectors and institutions. Through exhibits and other means the N.S.A.C. is stimulating interest in autograph collecting, and bringing the actual documents to the individual.

At the annual dinner of the American Association for State and Local History, Earle W. Newton of the Vermont Historical Society, presided, and introduced S. K. Stevens of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, who discussed "The Association's Eight Years and its Future." After tracing the history of the association he discussed future plans. A new awareness of the importance of local history is becoming evident, and a closer cooperation between local history groups and state and national agencies is a healthy indication for the future. The association through counsel and publications is doing a notable work in stimulating the interest in local history.

Archival Activity in American Universities and Colleges[1]

By JOHN MELVILLE JENNINGS

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THE impulses leading to archival activity in American universities and colleges differ only superficially from those perceived in other fields of American records preservation. For just as in the spheres of federal and state action, historians and librarians have taken the initial lead in bringing together and preserving the noncurrent official records of their particular institutions. Probably the earliest step in this direction was taken around the middle of the nineteenth century when the great Nestor of American historians, Jared Sparks, gathered up all of the Harvard College records he could lay his hands on and placed them in the Harvard College Library. At Dartmouth, a former librarian, Professor Sanborn, decided in 1870 that it was "high time something should be done to rescue the history" of his college from oblivion, and thus invigorated the archival unit now operating in the Baker Library. The great assemblage of university archives in the Low Library of Columbia University stems from the inspired days of Librarian Melvil Dewey. And during the same latter part of the nineteenth century Professor Edward Hitchcock at Amherst, President Lyon G. Tyler at William and Mary, and Librarian Nina E. Browne at Smith engaged themselves in similar activities on behalf of their respective institutions.

These and comparable actions were prompted almost certainly by historical rather than administrative motives. In general, as the university or college passed the heyday of its youth and the inevi-

[1] This paper, originally submitted to Dr. Ernst Posner of the American University, Washington, D. C., in partial fulfillment of the requirements of a graduate course in archival administration, was read before a joint meeting of the Society of American Archivists and the Association for State and Local History at Duke University on October 28, 1948. Mr. Jennings, onetime Curator of Rare Books and Manuscripts at the College of William and Mary, is now Librarian of the Virginia Historical Society at Richmond, Virginia. He gratefully acknowledges the kind assistance rendered by some several score university and college officials who supplied the information needed for his analysis.

table centennial or bicentennial volume became a pressing desideratum, the unfortunate scholar charged with its preparation turned quite naturally to his institution's official records. And usually his shock and dismay over their physical condition, dispersal and lacunae quickly converted him into an ardent advocate of a centralized records repository. At his behest the older existing segments of the materials were often transferred to the university or college library. But the translation was not always effected under such authoritative direction as the venerable Sparks provided at Harvard. Indeed, many administrative offices refused to be swayed by the appeal, and the records remained in diverse locations, constantly subject to the dangers that had threatened their existence since the day of their retirement to inactive status. It would be highly gratifying to report that such conditions no longer prevail. But the fact of the matter is, a large percentage of the institutions that have gone all out in recent times to collect historical manuscripts have unexplainably neglected their own archival resources. Unhappily, moreover, many of the collections that did come into being during the latter nineteenth and early twentieth centuries tended to display the attributes of their whole-hearted dedication to historical services.

University and college librarians, in whose custody the material was generally placed, attempted to apply their own particular skills and techniques to archival management, occasionally with tragic results. Strictly archival matter was planted in the midst of purely historical manuscripts and vice versa. Little or no attention was paid the more recent noncurrent records, which, lacking immediate historical use, continued to languish in whatever quarters the creating offices cared or were able to provide. Curators, in offering their pious tributes to scholarship, resorted to unusual arrangements and classifications, often hopelessly — and, in the eyes of some subsequent laborers in the vineyard, irrevocably — disorganizing the organic relationship of record bodies. A collection of heterogenous manuscripts and printed material concerning the history of the university or college, rather than an archival assemblage, came into being.

As Dr. Clifford K. Shipton has pointed out,[2] the very term archive for a long period of time stood in grave danger of becoming synonymous with the word collection. The light has yet to penetrate certain academic recesses, for as recently as 1946 a large

[2] "The Harvard University Archives: Goal and Functions," *Harvard Library Bulletin*, 1:101, Winter, 1947.

western university issued a six-page brochure entitled *Archives University of . . .* that never mentions the actual university records, or for that matter any material touching the history of the institution, but does gallantly discuss the problem of collecting historical manuscripts relating to the region in which the university is located. Equally disorganized terminology can be noted in the titles applied by universities and colleges to the custodians of their manuscript resources. The title of university or college "archivist" is generously bestowed upon any officer who administers manuscript material, even though the material fails to reflect in any manner the institution's official activities. A keen perception of the fallacy led Dr. Lester J. Cappon to rephrase the title of his valuable report on historical manuscripts activity at the University of Virginia. The first ten numbers (1930/31-1939/40) in the series appeared under the title *Annual Report of the Archivist, University of Virginia Library*; in 1940, however, Dr. Cappon, candidly reviewing the scope and true nature of his activities on behalf of the manuscript division of the Alderman Library, accurately revised the title to read *Annual Report on Historical Collections, University of Virginia Library.*

It would be foolhardy, as well as ungrateful, to condemn historians, librarians and antiquarians for these situations. Their unflagging energy, interest and zeal led to the preservation of university and college historical material, both archival and nonarchival, that might otherwise have been irretrievably lost. Indeed, our present understanding of the principles of archival administration was nourished in the trials and errors that characterized the first awkward attempts to control the historical segments of our records heritage. Yet the application of sound archival principles, terminology and techniques in the management of the official records of an institution as large as the American university and college of today is a problem of growing magnitude.

The fact that many American universities and colleges have attained extraordinary institutional size and vigor cannot be disregarded. Information offered in the 1948 edition of *American Universities and Colleges* (published by the American Council on Education) shows that their enrollments may number five, twenty or even forty thousand students; that their grounds may embrace thousands of acres; that their financial resources may exceed five, fifty or in several highly enviable cases a hundred million dollars; that their faculties may consist of eight or nine hundred professors

and instructors or more, and that their payrolls may list several thousand employees. Their administrative activities, in other words, exceed those of many eighteenth and nineteenth century European principalities. And reasonably enough, their record output reflects and parallels their phenomenal growth. It is unnecessary to explore the problems that face administrators when their organizational records escape control. To be sure, as an institution grows larger and older, as its organization becomes more complex and as its records increase and multiply, the adoption of a records and archival program becomes an indispensable adjunct to efficient management. In the course of time administration is finally obliged to accept this as a natural feature of its continued existence.

Aside, however, from scholarly and administrative springboards, there is evidence that other factors have energized archival activity within the citadels of learning. These influences, generated by archival progress in related record fields, have stimulated administrators, educators, historians and librarians alike to a realization of the inadequacies of existing arrangements. The establishment of the National Archives in 1934, for example, gave incalculable prestige to the movement, and similar successes on a more or less spectacular scale in the various states offered progressive encouragement. The Society of American Archivists, organized for purposes of professional support in 1936, has, mainly through the medium of its official journal, *The American Archivist*, which first appeared in 1938, invigorated activity in all spheres of archival interest. A training program for archivists, begun by Dr. Solon J. Buck at Columbia University in 1938 and subsequently conducted by Dr. Ernst Posner at the American University in Washington, D. C., has annually animated a sizable number of disciples from all sections of the country. It is fairly obvious that these and comparable developments have promoted an atmosphere that enables universities and colleges to examine their needs more effectively than would otherwise have been possible.

The merits of any specific solution to the archival problem facing American universities and colleges can of course be argued only on the basis of individual cases. What might meet the practical requirements of one institution need not necessarily be applicable to another. Even so, the desirability of implementing legislation enacted by the university or college governing board, or else an executive directive emanating from the institutional president, should be emphasized. True, the surest means of obtaining

the noncooperation of the faculty at some academic establishments is to launch a program sponsored by the institution's governing board. In these cases — and they are not common — the fate of the archives will remain vested in an uncertain providence, which may or may not provide an ingenious handmaiden to work the necessary miracles. For the program's success or failure unquestionably bears a direct relationship to the measure of authority exercised by the archivist in fulfilling his mission. The knowledge that his actions are backed up by an official statute or directive supplies wholesome comfort in times of stress. His problems, on a reduced scale to be sure, are nevertheless comparable to those of his colleague operating on federal and state levels. His charm and affability, no matter how great, do not guarantee that the dean of the graduate school or the chairman of the committee on admissions will transfer their noncurrent records to the archival depot. Nor will his ingratiating manner necessarily unlock the door to consultations on problems of current records management. A failure to meet these issues and to fortify the archivist's position will almost certainly impede the program's successful operation.

A sharp realization of these facts led the Harvard Corporation in the late nineteen-thirties to adopt a series of measures specifically designed to place its archival program on a sound basis. The measures are fully described and explained by Dr. Shipton, the Harvard archivist, in a series of articles lately published in the *Harvard Library Bulletin*.[3] Montana State University, influenced perhaps by the Harvard action, issued an executive directive in 1945 designed to achieve the same ends. And in the spring of 1948 the Board of Trustees of Fisk University adopted an "archives charter" that offers one of the most comprehensive statements of archival aims and procedure yet formulated by an American institution of higher learning. Brown University, I am advised, is also contemplating legislation along similar lines.

It should be stressed that the formulation of a comprehensive archival statute or directive, or even the working plans for an informal program, is best preceded by a complete survey of the institution's records and records-keeping practices. Such a survey, and on a monumental scale, was conducted at the University of California in 1948. This academic colossus, faced with record creators and record accumulations on eight different campuses, wisely preferred to assess the constituents of its problem before proceed-

[3] 1:101-108; 176-184, Winter and Spring, 1947.

ing to formal archival organization. Indeed, the scope and nature of the problem at any institution cannot be ascertained until this precaution is observed.

An archival statute enacted by the university or college trustees, regents, governors, visitors or what have you, would in most cases launch the program with more *éclat* than would an executive directive stemming from the president's office. But in either case it is vital that the following points be covered: a formal definition of the archives; the place of the archival agency within the administrative framework; the appointment and responsibilities of the archivist; the establishment of an archives council or committee; the regular transfer of noncurrent records to the central repository; the disposition of useless papers; the availability of records to users, and the archivist's role in current records administration. Most of these points, I might add, do not require amplification in THE AMERICAN ARCHIVIST since they are features common to archival planning in all record fields.

The placement of the archival agency within the institutional framework, however, cannot be so easily dismissed. Several solutions to the problem present themselves, but all should be subjected to the practical dictates of specific situations. At those institutions, for example, where historical association has firmly identified archival activity with the university or college library, it might prove expedient, though theoretically undesirable, to endeavor to expand the existing arrangements into an efficient archival program. Harvard has successfully proceeded on this assumption, and so has Columbia, though its program lacks the formal organic justification enjoyed by the former. Other institutions apparently developing their programs along this line — that is, organizing the archives as a division of the library — include, to mention only a few, the Universities of Chicago, Minnesota, Texas, Illinois, Brown, Oklahoma and Iowa. The Chicago program, which originated in the mind of the former university librarian, Mr. Beals, is under the supervision of an archivist who was first appointed in 1946 and who serves on the library staff. In 1946 also, the University of Illinois Board of Trustees appointed an archivist and activated his agency as a unit of the library organization. Brown, referred to in connection with its plans for archival legislation, is working on the assumption that the library is the proper repository for its archival collections. And in 1947 the Oklahoma University Board of Regents established an archival agency within the university library framework.

There are dangers in assigning the archivist a place on the librarian's staff: the archivist is then only indirectly responsible to the president of the institution, and the librarian becomes in fact the chief custodian of the archival collections. Certain earlier consequences of the connection have already been discussed. But even so, librarians are becoming fairly well aware of the fact that there is such a thing as archival economy, and if the local program is based on a sound statement of aims and the actual archivist is trained in his calling, the danger can be minimized.

Due to financial problems, the smaller university or college may find itself unable to support an agency devoted only to archival functions no matter where it is placed within the administrative framework. And in some cases the extent of the problem may not warrant the activation of an agency having this as its sole *raison d'être*. In such an event, archival responsibilities should logically be entrusted to the library's manuscript division. The College of William and Mary, where the former librarian, Dr. E. G. Swem, has capably concentrated the college archives in the manuscript division of the library, is an example of this type. The danger in such a proceeding is eliminated if a clear understanding of the nature of archival material exists in the custodian's mind.

At those institutions where manuscript repositories exist independently of the university or college library another development can be noted. For instance, the Michigan Historical Collections at the University of Michigan have become the resting place — as a result of transfers from the general library and from the administrative offices — of large segments of the university archives. The same process is underway at the University of Notre Dame, where portions of the university archives have been transferred to the custody of the curator of Roman Catholic historical records. But just as in the case of archival units operating as divisions of libraries, proper precautions must be observed when they are organized as divisions of manuscript repositories in order to maintain the integrity of the archives and to supply the custodian with sufficient authority to prosecute properly his archival functions.

There have also been cases where the alumni office or the office of the institutional secretary have partially assumed archival responsibilities. But these are rare, and only under the most unusual conditions could be viewed as desirable bases for expansion.

Many of the potential pitfalls inherent in the organizational approaches just discussed can be avoided by the establishment of

an independent agency devoted solely to archival and related functions, and operating under an archivist directly responsible to the institutional executive. At least two institutions, Colgate and Indiana, have organized their archival agencies as divisions of the president's office. Indiana, it is interesting to note, houses its collection within the main administration building in a five-story stack area that can be entered directly through the executive suite. While this is highly flattering to the administrative significance of the collection, a more common practice involves the activation of an archival agency as a service unit on a level with other service agencies of the university or college. As early as 1921 the Smith College Board of Trustees appointed an archivist to administer its collection of official and historical records, and endowed the agency with independent status. The archival resources of Amherst, after being identified with the college library for a long period of time, were transferred in 1934 to an independent agency operating under an archivist accountable only to the institutional executive. An independent archival agency was established by the University of Pennsylvania Board of Trustees in 1945, and in 1948 Fisk University took a similar step. While many librarians will heartily disagree, it is probable that the larger universities and colleges that have so far neglected organizing their archival agencies will find this the optimum solution to the problem.

The nonarchival collections touching the history of the institution must be taken into account since they are bound to be factors in archival planning. Whether or not these materials (for example, the correspondence of a distinguished faculty member; the records of a student organization; printed histories of the institution; biographical material concerning alumni; early student notebooks and textbooks; prints of the buildings and grounds, etc.) should be administered by the library, a special curator or the archivist himself is a matter of great concern to the latter. Many of the services he performs are closely geared to those of the historical collections. In fact, several of the university and college archival agencies that have not been granted this control have been obliged to establish duplicate working historical collections in their own quarters. It is no doubt true that extraneous materials through physical proximity constitute potential threats to the integrity of the archives. And such is certainly the case if the archivist is not trained in his calling. But if the archival matter is properly segregated, both physically and by inventory, from the other manuscript resources under

his supervision, the threat is less than negligible. The advantages in coordinating the activities of these two service agencies are financial as well as functional.

While I am convinced, moreover, that the archival agency from an organizational standpoint should in most cases be established as a unit independent of the library, I am nevertheless forced to recognize the fact that appropriate quarters for the agency in or attached to the library building is a highly desirable provision. The practicing archivist, if he renders the services expected of his agency, is daily obliged to rely on the printed materials in the library for the supplementary evidence needed to interpret his own manuscript collections. The sheer convenience of having these materials close at hand is an advantage that both the staff and the user of the archives will keenly appreciate.

This paper obviously fails to stress many important features of university and college archival activity. I have not emphasized the internal organization of the agencies, nor have I discussed the arrangement of their resources. I have been even more derelict in openly treating the most essential feature of the whole problem — that is, the functions of a university and college archival agency. To reserve the last paragraph for this confession is admittedly a weak conclusion. Yet the underlying motif of my remarks has been a recognition of the fact that university and college officials have begun to realize that certain functions — more specifically, the retirement, preservation and servicing of records — fall within the purlieus of professional activity. Had my paper been addressed to a different audience — say, for example, a group of university and college presidents or trustees — it would have taken a different form. Then its theme would have been the manifold services that can be expected of a university or college archival agency.

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The Conservation of Medieval Seals in the Swedish Riksarkiv

By GUSTAV FLEETWOOD [1]

Svenska Riksarkiv

THE number of medieval wax seals in the Swedish *riksarkiv* is estimated at about thirty thousand. Of these a very large number are in need of special treatment in order to preserve them. When B. E. Hildebrand during 1862-1867 published *Swedish Seals from the Middle Ages*, 1128 illustrations of seals from the period 1164-1350 were included. A study of the reproductions shows that about 640 seals, or over half, were damaged. The number of defective seals was, however, already considerably greater; and many of the seals, which were represented by Hildebrand as whole, actually existed in several fragments (*See* Hildebrand's preface p. XI). During the 80 years which have passed since then, the number of damaged seals has increased appreciably. More seals that were illustrated by Hildebrand are found only in fragments, and those that are mentioned in *Svensk Diplomatarium* as hanging from a parchment document have in many instances disappeared. The increasing interest of recent years in medieval research has been conducive to that situation by the wear and tear of recurring examinations of the seals, and the consequent greater risk of injury; for many of the seals are so fragile that even the removal of the parchment document from its wrapper exposes the seal to the danger of falling apart.

The method of conservation used at the *riksarkiv* since 1928 was to a certain extent developed from the principles and methods used at certain German archives, such as those of Lubeck and Dresden. The method of seal preservation used here has, however, been considerably altered and improved as a result of careful observation of decomposing seals, a study which extended over a number of years.

In addition to more or less careless handling, the principal cause of the breaking up of the seals has been found to be the result of the activity of a ray fungus whose growing spores perforate the wax

[1] Translated and condensed from *Meddelanden fran Svenska Riksarkivet for ar 1946*, by Margareth Jorgensen, The National Archives, Washington, D. C.

of the seal forming microscopic canals with a diameter of about .001 mm. Evidence of the presence of this fungus appears first in whitish gold spots on the seal which gradually spread over its surface and penetrate its depths until the wax has been thoroughly explored. When the fungi no longer find nourishment, they die or leave the seal. By this action the wax of the seal is changed from a semitransparent, more or less brownish, and compact substance, to one which is opaque, whitish yellow, and which crumbles like biscuit. In a seal where part of the wax is compact the fungi may continue their work in its depths and in its thick periphery. Originally formed by the combination of two cakes of wax enclosing the knotted end of a band or tie string, the fragile wax cakes eventually lose their adhesion, fall apart, and ruin the seal.

The presence of these fungi in the seals of the *riksarkiv* has been established by Dr. Bjorn Palm, the botanist, who received fragments of the seals for examination, and upon enlarging them 800 times found the ray fungi at work in transition points between the disturbed and the compact wax.

According to Dr. Palm these fungi also exist as micro-organisms of the air. They are generally found in living rooms with the appropriate humidity, and are not missing in libraries and archival establishments. In contrast to some other plants, they are insensible to light. They thrive as well in the light as in the dark and are relatively insensible to variations of temperature. They can be frozen in an ice block for several weeks, yet grow when the block melts. The temperature most suitable for them lies between 6 plus and 30 plus degrees of Celsius, but a temperature of 60 plus degrees of Celsius destroys them.[2] As the melting point of the wax lies between 62 plus and 63 plus degrees of Celsius, any attempt to eradicate the fungi by heat without injuring the seal verges upon the impossible.[3]

Air with a high degree of humidity, according to Dr. Palm, favors the growth of these fungi. They therefore thrive excellently in our relatively cold and humid climate, and likewise in that of England, Holland, and other countries with a similar climate. In more southern, warmer lands, such as France and Italy, their appearance is seldom verified.

Seal conservation aims (1) to check the destructive efforts of

[2] The 6 and 30 degrees Celsius are about equal to 43 and 86 degrees Fahrenheit. Celsius equals 140 degrees Fahrenheit.

[3] The melting point of wax is found at about 145 degrees Fahrenheit.

the fungi before they are completed, (2) to return to the wax affected by the fungi some of its original consistency, and (3) to unite fragments of the broken seal by the addition of new wax.

In certain foreign archives the interest seems to have been centered upon the second point without any recognition of the necessity of eradicating the fungi and thereby preventing the continuation of their work of destruction. Thus in Lubeck and Dresden a wax paste has been used consisting of about one-third dissolved wax and two-thirds volatile oils. Without any further preparation this paste was spread upon seals that had been affected by the activity of the fungi. By this treatment the exterior of the wax was somewhat strengthened and thus to a certain extent the seal was preserved, a result with which those concerned permitted themselves to be satisfied. Though the paste used may have been somewhat antiseptic, it is unthinkable that the micro-organisms will be reached when they are located in the bottom of a poor spot to which lead only channels with a diameter of .001 mm. The paste is also not ideal in that it dries altogether too slowly, making it necessary for seals to hang for a half year in a ventilated cabinet.

At the British Museum in London, which repairs seals for the Public Records Office, an attempt has been made to hinder the work of the fungi by the use of French turpentine. This method is certainly more dependable than that of using paste, as the turpentine penetrates the fine channels better. Its evaporation also leaves a trace of resin, which obstructs the channels. As a result these fungi, which are in need of oxygen from the air, are eventually suffocated. Nevertheless the question can be raised as to whether the turpentine is able to entirely destroy the microorganisms. At any rate, turpentine alone is unable to return the damaged wax to its original state. It must also be noted that, although the turpentine is thin, it can not penetrate to the bottom of the fine capillaries formed by the spores of the fungi; for the capillaries are filled with air that, unless able to escape, will exclude the oil.

In the seal conservation program of the *riksarkiv* I have concentrated my attention upon checking the activities of the ray fungi by killing them. — Many years ago, while in conversation with Gunnav Rengman, the chief of the main laboratory of the custom department and then also city council inspector, I mentioned that my first action in the preservation of a seal consisted of washing it in pure alcohol, which, as is well known, does not dissolve the wax yet evaporates readily. My attention was then called to the

fact that this treatment might have some importance in regard to the destruction of bacteria. Furthermore, alcohol is better able than most fluids to penetrate the microscopic tunnels. This disinfecting action of alcohol can be increased by the addition of various ingredients.

In my work I sought a more effective method of conservation than I had seen used in foreign countries. My aim included the destruction of the ray fungi, and also the renewal, as far as possible, of the wax which they had damaged.

During my first years at the *riksarkiv* I experimented with the use of paste, *but* diluted it with benzene in order to make it as thin as possible. For several reasons I was dissatisfied with the result. First, because the seal had to hang for such a long period to dry, and also — and principally — because I found that the paste never penetrated the seal, especially if it was thick. *Paste was and remained a treatment of the exterior*, and the friable wax inside the seal was not reached. And no matter how well I tried to wash the relief with benzene, some of the paste, if the seal hung for a time to dry, would be left, *where I did not want it.*

I turned again to my invaluable friend Gunnav Rengman, city council director and one of our country's ablest chemists, who during the years has given me very valuable advice. The use of paste was soon rejected and more appropriate fluid ingredients were substituted. These first important signs of progress were made during the early period of my more than eighteen years of service with the *riksarkiv.*

As has been stated above, I was, regardless of progress, dissatisfied with the result. It was my intention to have the friable seal absorb the liquid ingredients, which I shall not call paste, but rather (as wax does not enter into its composition) a *wax substitute.* I wanted the weak decomposing seal to suck into itself this wax substitute with such intensity that none of the inner parts of a large seal should escape being impregnated with the fluid. At the same time the sharpness of the relief must not be lost in a coating of the preservative. Many discussions were held with Director Rengman concerning my desire. I knew that if anyone could solve my problem it would be he. *And he did it.* He constructed for me (or more correctly for the *riksarkiv*) a vacuum apparatus connected to a water-jet pump. In this apparatus one of the larger parchment documents could be inserted so as to allow the attached seal to be lowered into a smaller glass containing the wax substi-

tute. Although standing on the bottom of a vacuum jar, this glass was large enough to hold the seal to be treated. With this apparatus I have achieved the best results.

THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE VACUUM APPARATUS[4]

The apparatus consists of a cylindrical vacuum glass jar or desiccator, 30 cm. high and with a diameter of about 18 cm. This vessel is made strong enough to resist air pressure of 760 mm. mercury or normal air pressure. This strength is necessary as the water-jet pump removes almost all of the air within the desiccator. The glass cover of the desiccator has rubber packing in order to insure that it fits tightly. Somewhat conical in shape the cover ends in a glass pipe suitable for a vacuum tube with a diameter of 8 mm. The valve A on the glass tube can be closed so as to maintain a vacuum in the jar for the period desired. By means of the [heavy rubber] vacuum tube, the desiccator is connected with the vacuum meter and its security vessels, which in turn are connected to a water-jet pump that is coupled directly to a water pipe or faucet.

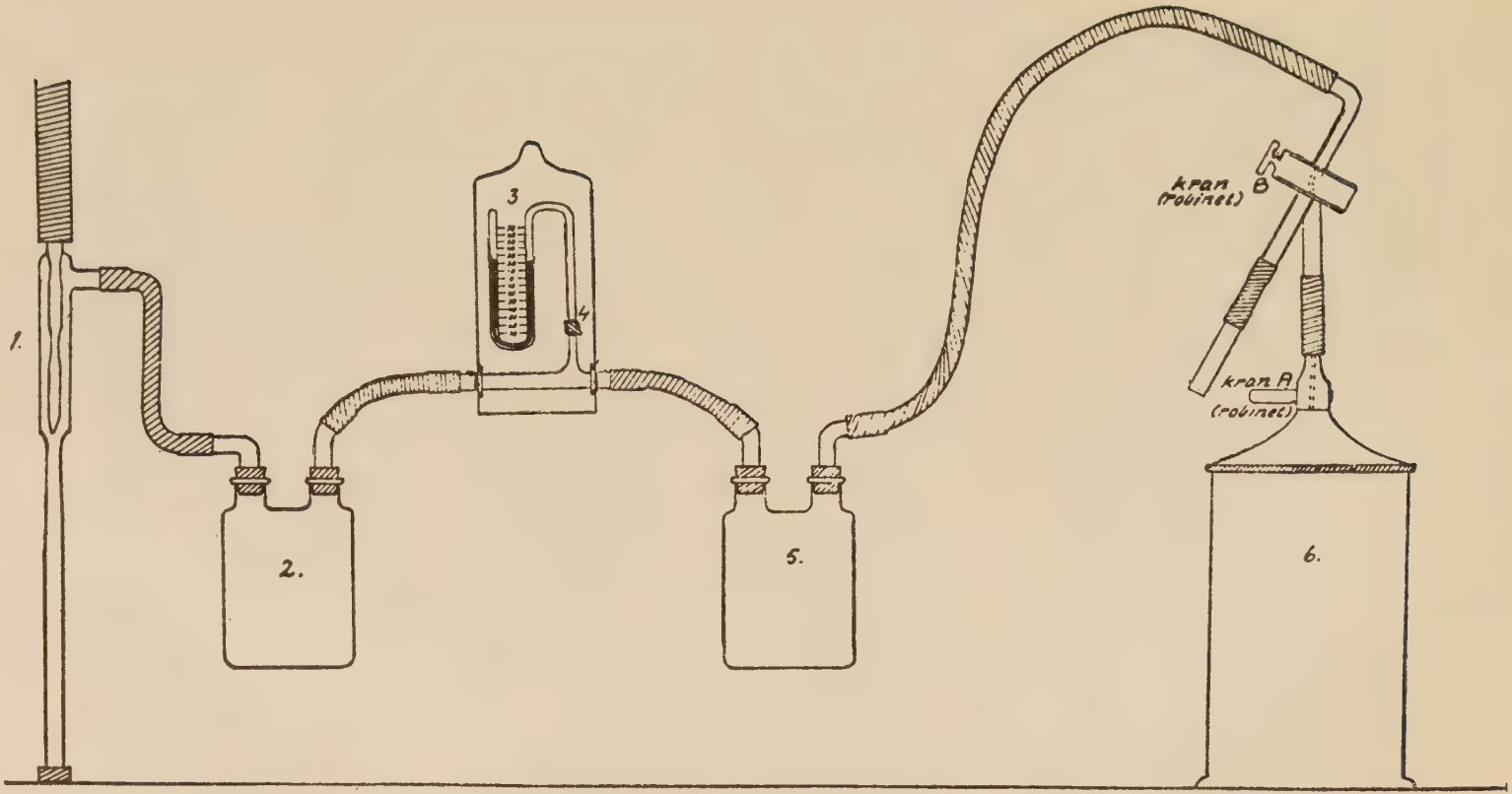
To this short description of the vacuum apparatus must be added a very important detail, a glass pipe which is placed about 10 cm. above the cover of the glass jar. Its divisions and the valve B permit air to be admitted either to the desiccator or to the whole system in order to increase the amount of air within either or both. Such an arrangement is necessary when the pump is being closed, as one must have a means for preventing the fast flowing water from splashing into the side tube. Although the water would enter the security vessel, some trouble might be occasioned by it. When the pump has been closed and the mercury of the vacuum meter has slowly risen, the valve B can be removed so as to let the whole system be filled with air.

This vacuum apparatus for seal conservation is so well planned and constructed that I call it a master piece both of its kind and for the object desired. Without it I should never have been able to achieve somewhat satisfactory results in the preservation of medieval seals.

THE USE OF THE VACUUM APPARATUS

During the treatment of the seal, the parchment document hangs inside the desiccator, after having been clamped to wooden sticks that are arranged so as to stand in the jar.

[4] See illustration.



Schematisk bild av vakuumapparaten.
1. vattenluftpump. 2 och 5. säkerhetskärl. 3. vakuummeter. 4. kran. 6. glasexsickator.

In the bottom of the desiccator is placed the glass with the seal to be treated and enough of the liquid wax substitute to cover it. To prevent the parchment strap, which holds the seal, from acting as a wick bringing the fluid to the document, a clamp is placed on the strap as close to the seal as is possible. When this preparation has been made, the cover is placed upon the jar with the rubber packing in place beneath it. The valves are regulated so as to connect the whole system. Then the water-jet pump is allowed to function [so that molecules of air from the side tube of the system are carried out with the water from the top. As the molecules are drawn out they are replaced by others.] The air in the system is soon reduced to one-fifth or one-sixth of the original amount. In the meantime the mercury in the vacuum meter begins to sink, reaching as low as 10 mm. and even as low as 8 mm., which means that the air in the system has been reduced to about 1% (from 760 mm. to 8 mm.). The desiccator then contains only 1% of air, and the seal in the wax substitute fluid is exposed to great suction. This situation becomes evident when air leaves the seal to enter the liquid as a scum or froth that often flows over the edge of the glass. The appearance of foam can also be related to the fact that the volatile oils in the wax substitute appear to boil as they become gaseous in form. The amount of foam present at any time can be regulated by turning the valve B to allow a little air to enter the desiccator. This action is repeated whenever it is necessary, until the amount of foam that is being formed at a given time is no longer great enough to flow over the top of the glass. The vacuum, however, must be maintained as long as bubbles leave the seal, or from ½ to 1 hour, according to the size of the seal and the consistency of the surfaces containing the relief. Although the seal as a whole may be friable, its surfaces may be quite hard.

When the foam no longer appears, the water-jet pump can be slowly closed. At the same time the valve B is maneuvered so as to admit air gradually. Otherwise the mercury in the vacuum meter may rise so quickly that its glass tube may break. Finally the pump is closed, the valve B is removed, the whole system is again filled with air, and the cover of the desiccator can be removed. As the parchment is lifted, the seal must be handled with the greatest care for it is at that time very fragile. Nevertheless one allows the seal to rest in the left hand while one with the right gives the relief a light rinse, using benzene for that purpose. In addition one blows upon the flowing benzene in order that the sur-

face of the seal may become absolutely free from any possible deposit from the wax substitute.

The seal that has been treated is later hung, with its document, to dry in a suitable cabinet. If there appears to be any danger that the seal may fall to pieces, it is placed upon a brick. Thanks to the additions to the wax substitute that were recommended by City Council Director Rengman, the seal is often so dry and hard in two or three days that one can add new wax where it is needed and thus restore the wax seal as much as possible to its original size and appearance. It is to be noted that the seal which has received preservative treatment has changed from whitish gold to its original darker wax color.

THE WAX SUBSTITUTE AND ITS USE

A few more words about the liquid wax substitute. As has been mentioned French turpentine is used in London in the care of seals, and experience indicates that turpentine should be an important constituent of the wax substitute. The vacuum suction enables the turpentine to enter the microscopic channels quite easily, while its evaporation leaves a trace of resin. Nevertheless turpentine alone can not be considered a satisfactory fluid for the preservation of wax seals. A little benzene should be used to reduce the viscosity of the fluid. The addition of linseed oil or a similar drying oil will give the wax a certain amount of flexibility. To give wax which is ready to crumble some strength and solidity, *barnstens* lacquer is added. A small amount of a solution containing cobalt and linseed oil is useful in the drying of the seal after the vacuum treatment. The last ingredient, prepared by Director Rengman, consists of a solution containing a form of copper which may poison the ray fungi.[5] The theory that this solution may be important in the pre-

[5] Composition of the Wax Substitute.

(1) Wax substitute for the vacuum treatment of relatively solid seals and for the first treatment of very fragile seals.

200 grams French turpentine
10 " linseed oil or similar oil
5 " solution containing cobalt and linseed oil (circa 50%)
3 " solution containing copper (circa 50%)
15 " benzene
5 " *barnstens* lacquer

(2) Wax substitute for the second and third vacuum treatments of very fragile seals:

As given above except that the linseed oil or similar drying oil has been increased to 15 grams and the *barnstens* lacquer has also been increased to 15 grams.

vention of further attacks of the seal by the fungi could also be strengthened by the following facts: Almost all medieval seals that were prepared from colored wax (red or green) have remained free from attacks by the ray fungi. Their wax is still hard and compact, although the seal may be broken or its edges injured. This is also true in regard to many seals, especially those from the fifteenth century, in which colored relief cakes are surrounded by a border of uncolored wax. In such seals the relief cakes, no matter how thin, if they consist of colored wax, have not been attacked by the ray fungi; yet the border, consisting of a greater amount of uncolored wax, is usually fragile, penetrated by the spores of the fungi, and consequently, often in danger of breaking into pieces. That the colored seal cakes have been free from attacks by the fungi appears to be due to the inorganic origin of its colors. One can therefore hope that the vacuum treatment with the liquid wax substitute containing copper in a form which is poisonous to many micro-organisms — in general to a much greater extent than most inorganic pigments — will prevent seals thus treated from any future attacks by the micro-organisms. It would also appear that Director Rengman's solution should be added to the new wax used to add a border to a seal or to replace other parts which may have broken off.

After new wax has been added to a seal the vacuum treatment can be repeated both once and twice, especially in seals that are very thick but fragile. For the first vacuum treatment of such a seal, the thinner wax substitute should be used. In other words, in order that the liquid may penetrate the whole seal, little or no lacquer should be added to the wax substitute. That the seal after having received one treatment still appears somewhat porous and delicate, is due to the fact that the ingredients of the liquid wax substitute has penetrated the capillaries, but did not leave enough residue to fill them. A second and perhaps a third vacuum treatment will practically fill the capillaries, leaving the old wax compact, and any spores in the channels without air but exposed to the action of the copper poison. Vacuum suction can also be used to fill a space between the two cakes of a seal. Care and precision are necessary in order to renew fragile and fragmentary seals and to treat loose seal cakes whose thickness is less than 1 mm. Through the above described treatment, and particularly by the vacuum suction accompanied by the liquid wax substitute, specially good results have been achieved.

The Archivist's Book Shelf

RICHARD G. WOOD, Editor

The National Archives

GENERAL REFERENCE BOOKS

Reference service, in its varied aspects, is one of the most important functions of any archival establishment. Indeed, reference is the ultimate end to which all other intermediary steps in records control and records administration are directed. Consequently, the selection of reference books that will comprise basic tools for the rendition of efficient, effective, and economical reference service is of the utmost significance. Important as this matter is to the larger and more wealthy repositories and institutions that are concerned with research and the furnishing of information, it is of still greater moment to the smaller archival establishment whose financial resources are limited. This is especially true when the local archives as part of the state historical commission or some other comparable state agency operates by means of a shared appropriation. What reference books, then, should be recommended for an archival establishment whose situation as far as means and other facilities are concerned is moderate?

At the outset, some consideration should be given to the evaluation of reference works. In the first place, a reference work should be authentic. Authoritativeness, dependability, and completeness are measurements which should be applied as tests for the determination of authenticity.

Secondly, a reference work should be so constituted that it can be used with facility. Such matters as arrangement and format are to be considered. The order of the materials, the fulness of the indexes, the presence and adequacy of the cross references, the type and size of the print, the type and prominence of the illustrations, the make up of the pages, the durability of the paper, and the kind of binding are some of the paramount factors that determine the effective usage of such books.

Thirdly, a reference work should be evaluated for its special features, that is, characteristics peculiar to that work only. The uniqueness of such features as content, bibliographies, scope, treatment, arrangement, and authorities are of significance in this instance. Obviously this third factor of evaluation is more applicable to works that are out of print. Although not exhaustive, the above criteria can be very helpful in the selection of appropriate reference books.

For purpose of arrangement, at the risk of some overlapping, two broad classifications are projected: one, general and the other, special. Under the first, reference works are listed that concern a multiplicity of subjects and are not confined to any one specific subject. Included among these are the standard

dictionaries, encyclopedias, yearbooks, handbooks, directories, representations, and indexes. So popular are these basic tools for reference service that little need be said about them other than in the list. They are musts in any archival establishment or research center. These works, of course should be kept current.

Under the second broad classification, works are found that are devoted to a special subject or aspects of that subject. They represent the same classes of books as indicated above. Frequently, however, these reference works are not readily available. In some instances considerable time must be spent in their location. Moreover, their acquisition is sometimes impossible or too expensive and their contents must be duplicated by microphotography or some other means.

SELECTED REFERENCE WORKS FOR THE ARCHIVIST

I. General

A. Dictionaries

Webster, Noah. *Webster's New International Dictionary of the English Language.* 2d ed., unabridged. . . . A Merriam-Webster. William Allan Neilson, ed. in chief. . . . Springfield, Mass., Merriam, 1947. Pp. cxii + 3210. il., pl., (part col.) ports., charts, diagrs.

Still a standard. Main part of work like that of the 1945 ed. Includes hundreds of new words and scientific terms connected with the war found in the 1945 ed.

B. Encyclopedias

Encyclopedia Americana. . . . 1948 ed. N. Y., Chic., Americana Corp. 1948. 30 vols. il., pl., (part col.) ports., maps, facims.

An up-to-date general encyclopedia that maintains a good reputation. Important articles are written by specialists and are signed. Illustrations are good. Bibliographies are not always adequate.

C. Yearbooks

World Almanac and Books of Facts, 1868—. N. Y., New York World, 1868-1931; World-Telegram, 1932—.

Most comprehensive and most frequently useful of the American almanacs. Contains extensive information, including statistical, on political, economic, and social subjects. Alphabetical index at the beginning of each volume. Up-to-date and generally reliable.

Statesman's Yearbook; Statistical and Historical Annual of States of the World for the Year, 1864. N. Y., Macmillan, 1864—.

Most useful yearbook that concerns itself with statistical and

descriptive information on the countries of the world. Valuable for its selected bibliography.

Americana Annual, 1923—; *An Encyclopedia of Current Events.* Chicago, Americana Corp., 1923—.

A yearly encyclopedic survey of the world's activities and progress. Arranged alphabetically by subject.

D. Handbooks

Mulhall, M. G. *Dictionary of Statistics.* 4th ed. rev. N. Y., Dutton, 1903. 853 p.

Presents statistics alphabetically from the time of Emperor Diocletian to 1890 in pt. I; and from 1890-98 in pt. II. Indexed but does not give authorities for statistics.

Webb, A. D. *New Dictionary of Statistics.* N. Y., Dutton, 1911. 682 p.

Supplements Mulhall for the period 1890-1909. Generally arranged like Mulhall. Gives authorities for all statistics listed.

E. Directories

Dictionary of American Biography, under the auspices of the American Council of Learned Societies; ed. by Allen Johnson and Dumas Malone. N. Y., Scribner, 1928-37. 20 v. and index.

Comparable in its over-all plan to the English *Dictionary of National Biography.* Includes accounts of persons whose death occurred before Dec. 31, 1935, the original publication date. Noteworthy persons who lived in what is now the U. S. A. at any time are included exclusive of British officers serving in America after independence was declared. Signed articles and bibliographies appear.

Dictionary of American Biography, under the auspices of the American Council of Learned Societies, ed. by Harris E. Starr. V. 21, Supplement 1, (To December 31, 1935) N. Y., Scribner, 1944. 718 p.

Contains 652 sketches of persons who were not included in the main work although their inclusion would have been appropriate and those whose death occurred before the final date of publication but who were living when work went to press.

Who's Who in America; a Biographical Dictionary of Notable Living Men and Women of the United States, 1899 / 1900—; . . . rev. and reissued biennially. Chicago, Marquis, 1900—.

A dictionary of contemporary biography giving concise biographical data. Arranged alphabetically by biographies. Later volumes

include addresses of persons appearing. In the case of authors, lists of works are added.

National Cyclopedia of American Biography. N. Y., White, 1892-1947. 33 v.

Furnishes the most comprehensive list of American living and dead notables. Sketches are long and information is full. Information in sketches is based on questionnaires and correspondence with biographees. These materials have been preserved in the office archives where they are available.

F. Atlases

Rand McNally and Co. *Commercial Atlas and Marketing Guide.* Chicago, Rand McNally, 1949. 584 p. The maps are in colors. Subscribed to annually. Revised constantly. Contains economic maps, road maps, airline distances, etc. Physical and historical maps are few.

Rand McNally and Co. *Standard Atlas of the World.* Chicago, Rand McNally and Co. 1948. 367 p.

In color. Emphasizes physical features. Considerable information is given on economic, political, and social factors of the various countries of the world.

G. Indexes

Poole, W. F. Poole's *Index to Periodical Literature* . . . with the assistance of William I. Fletcher and the cooperation of the American Library Association and the Library Association of the United Kingdom. rev. ed. Boston, Houghton, 1891. 2 v. 1802-81.

Poole, W. F. Supplements: v. 1, 1882-1886; v. 2, 1887-1891; v. 3, 1892-1896; v. 4, 1897-1901; v. 5, 1902-1906.

The original index with supplements comprise a significant work. A period of over a hundred years and about 590,000 articles appearing in some 12,241 volumes of 470 American and English periodicals are covered. Subject index only.

Readers' Guide to Periodical Literature (cumulative) 1900—. N. Y., Wilson, 1905—.

A modern index of the best type. Dictionary cataloging of entries, uniformity of entries, full information in references are a few of the better features of this work. Available on service basis. Through 1935 annual basis since monthly basis and mid-monthly basis for issuing index.

International Index to Periodicals, Devoted Chiefly to the Humanities and Science, June 1907—; a Cumulative Author and Sub-

ject Index to a Selected List of the Periodicals of the World. N. Y., Wilson, 1916—. v. 1—.

Arrangement and entry fulness about that of the *Readers' Guide.* The *International Index* indexes more than twice the number of periodicals indexed by the *Readers' Guide.* It concentrates on scholarly American and foreign journals in contrast to the *Readers' Guide* which indexes general periodicals. Available on a service basis.

U. S. Superintendent of Documents. *Checklist of United States Public Documents, 1789-1909.* 3d ed. rev. and enl. Washington, Govt. Print. Off., 1911. 1707 p.

An almost complete list of documents for the period. The fullest such list available.

U. S. Superintendent of Documents. *Monthly Catalog United States Public Documents, 1895—.* Washington, Govt. Print. Off., 1895—.

Lists monthly for each department current government publications. Instructions for ordering are also included.

Poore, B. P. *A Descriptive Catalog of the Government Publications of the United States, Sept. 5, 1774-Mar. 4, 1881.* Washington, Govt. Print. Off., 1885. 1392 p.

Lists nearly every document in chronologic order as issued to March 4, 1881. Some errors but frequently only key to early documents.

Ames, J. G. *Comprehensive Index to the Publications of the United States Government,* 1881-1893. Washington, Govt. Print. Off., 1905. 2 v.

This work takes up where Poore leaves off. Arranged alphabetically by subject or title. There is an index at the end of volume 2.

U. S. Superintendent of Documents. *Catalogue of the Public Documents of the 53d to the . . . Congress, and of all the Departments of the United States for the Period from March 4, 1893 to . . .* Washington, Govt. Print. Off.

This catalogue begins where Ames' index stops and continues the indexing to date. It has been difficult, however, to keep this work current.

II. Special

A. Dictionaries

Craigie, Sir William Alexander. *Dictionary of American English on Historical Principles,* ed. by Sir William A. Craigie and James R. Hulbert. Chic., Univ. of Chic. pr., 1944. 4 v.

This work attempts to list and illustrate by dated quotation as many words and phrases as practicable which have been used currently in the U. S. A. since the beginning of the Colonial Period. The present work stops with the end of the nineteenth century. Pronunciation is not aided by the work.

Greet, William Cabell. *World Words, Recommended Pronunciations.* N. Y., pub. for the Columbia broadcasting system by Columbia Univ. pr., 1944. 402 p.

Gives pronunciation of about 10,000 words and names including battlefields, places made famous by World War II, names of persons in the news and difficult words.

Wentworth, Harold. *American Dialect Dictionary.* N. Y., Crowell, 1944. 747 p.

Over 10,000 terms with 60,000 quotations showing usage are included. Dialect in the connection with localisms, regionalisms and provincialisms is dealt with.

Colby, Elbridge. *Army Talk; a Familiar Dictionary of Soldier Speech.* Princeton, Princeton Univ. pr., 1942. 232 p.

Words and phrases used in the U. S. Army are explained.

Chevalley, Abel and Chevalley, Marguerite. *Concise Oxford French Dictionary.* N. Y., Oxford Univ. pr., 1934. 895 p.

Muret, Eduard and Sanders, Daniel. *Muret-Saunders Enzyklopädisches english-deutsches und deutsch-englisches wörterbuch. . . .* Berlin-Schonberg, Langenscheidt, 1910. 2 v. in 4.

Kenkyusha's New English-Japanese Dictionary on Bilingual Principles; Y. Okakura, general ed. Berkeley and Los Angeles, Univ. of Cal. pr., 1942. 2514 p.

Kenkyusha's New Japanese-English Dictionary. . . . Takenobu Yoshitaro, general ed., Amer. ed. Camb., Harvard Univ. pr., 1942. 2280 p.

Mathews, Robert Henry. *Mathews' Chinese-English Dictionary.* Rev. American ed., pub. for the Harvard-Yenching Institute. Camb., Harvard Univ. pr., 1943. 1226 p.

Webster, Noah. *Webster's Collegiate Dictionary with Chinese Translation.* Editors: P. W. Kuo and S. L. Chang. Shanghai, China, Commercial pr., 1923. 1768 p.

Aleksandrov, A. *Complete English-Russian Dictionary.* 7th ed. rev. and enl. Petrograd, 1916. 918 p.

Aleksandrov, A. *Complete Russian-English Dictionary.* 6th ed. rev. and enl. N. Y., Maisel, 1929. 765 p.

These bilingual dictionaries are merely listed for those reposi-

tories whose record holdings include or are likely to include considerable record materials in a foreign language.

Schlomann, Alfred, ed. *Illustrated Technical Dictionaries in Six Languages, English, German, French, Russian, Italian, Spanish.* Berlin, Technische Worterbücherverlag G. M. B. H., 1906-32, 17 v.

Covers the applied sciences well. Each volume is concerned with one field, i.e., vol. 17 is aeronautics. Translators are aided by this work.

B. Encyclopedias

Encyclopedia of the Social Sciences; editor-in-chief, E. R. A. Seligman; associate ed., Alvin Johnson. N. Y., Macmillan, 1930-35. 15 v.

Projected and prepared under the auspices of ten learned societies, this work comprehends the entire field of the social sciences. All important topics in the fields of political science, economics, law, anthropology, sociology, penology, and social work, and social aspects of ethics, education, geography, medicine, biology, etc., are included. Articles are by specialists and are signed in full. Adequate bibliographies are furnished. Arranged alphabetically by topics in general.

Van Nostrand's Scientific Encyclopedia; Aeronautics, Astronomy, Botany, Chemical Engineering, Chemistry, Civil Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Electronics, and Radio, Geology, Mathematics, Metallurgy, Meteorology, Mineralogy, Navigation, Photography, Physics, Statistics, Zoology. 2d ed. N. Y., Van Nostrand, 1947. 1600 p. il., tables, diagrs.

The title explains the work quite adequately. Articles are signed. Entries are arranged alphabetically with cross references.

C. Yearbooks

The American Yearbook, 1910—, *N. Record of Events and Progress.* N. Y. Nelson.

Presents annually a clearly focused picture of events and achievements in the United States and in the area of American influence. Materials are grouped in seven large headings. Among these are: historical, governmental, economics and business, science, and humanities.

Yearbook of American Labor. ed by Colston E. Warne and others. N. Y., Philosophical lib., 1945—. 655 p. tables.

Includes roster of labor unions in the U. S. A., case studies of organized labor, labor and the government, and the international relations of American labor.

D. Handbooks

Wilcox, Jerome K. *Manual on the Use of State Publications,* Chicago, American Library Association, 1940. 342 p.

Devised to facilitate research in state publications. Chapter 6 is bibliography of bibliographies of state publications.

Hodge, F. W. *Handbook of American Indians North of Mexico.* Washington, Govt. Print. Off., 1907-10. Reissued 1912. 2 v. Furnishes a descriptive list of the tribes, confederacies, settlements; biographical sketches and history, etc.

United States Bureau of the Census. *Sixteenth Census of the United States*: Wash., Govt. Print. Off., 1942-1947. ca 112 v.

E. Directories

Office of the Judge Advocate General, United States Army. United *States Military Reservations, National Cemeteries, and Military Parks, Titles, Jurisdiction, Etc.* Washington, Govt. Print. Off., 1916. Rev. ed.

Information concerning the title of the Federal Government to military reservations and the transactions involved in acquisition of land from state governments.

United States Congress. *Biographical Directory of the American Congress,* 1774-1927. Washington, Govt. Print. Off., 1928. 1740 p.

Biographical sketches are arranged alphabetically.

Heitman, Francis B. *Historical Register and Dictionary of the United States Army, from its Organization September 27, 1789 to March 2, 1903.* Wash., Govt. Print. Off., 1903. 2 v.

The unofficial work of a private compiler which was purchased and published by the Federal Government. Besides listing officers and furnishing their military careers, this work gives information on military campaigns and installations.

Callahan, Edward W. *List of Officers of the Navy of the United States and of the Marine Corps,* from 1775-1900. Comprising a Complete Register of all Present and Former Commissioned, Warranted, and Appointed Officers of the United States Navy, and of the Marine Corps, Regular and Volunteer. New York, L. R. Hamersly and Co. 1901. 750 p.

Compiled from the Official Records of the Navy Department. Besides giving information concerning the naval career of officers, the work also provides a sketch of the navy, list of students at Naval Academy from 1840-1900 by class, and a list of vessels in navy from 1797 to 1900.

F. Atlases

Lord, Clifford L. and Elizabeth H. *Historical Atlas of the United States.* N. Y., Henry Holt and Co. 1944. 253 p.

Contains general maps showing the physical features and natural resources of North America and special maps and other illustrative material for the Colonial Period, the period 1775-1865, and that of 1865-1941. Information is included on every important movement in each of these periods.

G. Indexes

War Department: Office of the Chief of Staff. *Bibliography of State Participation in the Civil War,* 1861-66. Third ed. Washington, Govt. Print. Off., 1913. 1140 p.

Arranged alphabetically by states, the work includes official publications such as governors' messages, reports of adjutants general, and of state registers; regimental histories; and miscellaneous, such as state, county, and town histories and all other material bearing upon local participation.

Historical Records Survey. *Bibliography of Research Projects Reports; Check-list of Historical Records Survey Publications.* Wash., Federal works agency, W. P. A. 1940. 46 numb. (W. P. A. Technical ser. Research and records projects bibliography, no. 4).

Gives record of publication as of July 15, 1940 for the following series: Inventories of county archives, Inventories of town and municipal archives, Inventories of state archives, Inventories of federal archives in the states, Manuscript publications, American imprints inventory publications, Church archives publications, and Miscellaneous publications.

U. S. Superintendent of Documents. Library of Congress. Monthly Checklist of State Publications, 1910—. Wash., Govt. Print. Off., 1910.

Arranged alphabetically by state and thereunder alphabetically by issuing department. Serial number and L. C. card number are furnished. At the end of each year a dictionary index is included.

Hasse, Adelaide Rosalie. *Index of Economic Material in Documents of the States of the United States.* Wash., Carnegie Inst., 1907-22. 13 v. in 16.

Prepared for the Carnegie institution, Department of Economics and Sociology, the vols., issued before the project ended were:

California, 1849-1904, 1908. 316 p.
Delaware, 1789-1904, 1910. 137 p.

Illinois, 1809-1904, 1909. 393 p.
Kentucky, 1792-1904, 1910. 452 p.
Maine, 1820-1904, 1907. 95 p.
Massachusetts, 1789-1904, 1908. 310 p.
New Hampshire, 1789-1904, 1907. 66 p.
New Jersey, 1789-1904, 1914. 705 p.
New York, 1789-1904, 1907. 553 p.
Ohio, 1789-1904, 1912. 1136 p. 2 v.
Pennsylvania, 1790-1904, 1919-22. 3 v.
Rhode Island, 1789-1904, 1908. 95 p.
Vermont, 1789-1904, 1907. 71 p.

An attempt is made to supply a reference by volume and page to all material of economic importance found in printed reports of administrative officers, legislative committees, special commissions of the state, and in the governors' messages. The word economic has been loosely applied. Indexing is by broad subjects.

Downes, Robert B. *Resources of Southern Libraries, A Survey of Facilities for Research.* Chi., American Library Association, 1938. 370 p.

A classified collection of materials of potential value for study and research found in the South. Material is described and listed under such headings as Reference Books, Government Publications, Manuscripts, and Newspapers. Especially significant is the manuscripts listing for public men of the South.

Index to American Genealogies; and to Genealogical Material Contained in all Works such as Town Histories, County Histories, Historical Society Publications, Biographies, Historical Periodicals, and Kindred Works. 5th ed. rev. improved and enl. Albany, N. Y., Munsell, 1900-08. 352 p. and suppl. 107 p.

Brigham, Clarence S. *Bibliography of American Newspapers*, 1690-1820. Pts. 1-18. (In American Antiquarian Society Proceedings: vols. 23-30; 32; 34; 35; and 37.)

A detailed sketch is furnished for each paper as well as its location.

U. S. Library of Congress. *Check-list of American Newspapers in the Library of Congress*, Comp. under the direction of A. B. Slauson. Wash., Govt. Print. Off., 1901. 292 leaves.

Arranged by states and towns and under each town alphabetically by catch word in title. A historical sketch for each newspaper is given.

ROLAND C. MCCONNELL

Morgan State College
Baltimore, Maryland

Review of Books

RICHARD G. WOOD, Editor

The National Archives

Archives Year Book for South African History. Tenth year, 1947, edited by Dr. Coenraad Beyers, Chief Archivist of the Union, and others. (Cape Town. The Government Printer, 1948. Pp. 304.)

The tenth year of the *Archives Year Book* would seem to provide a convenient opportunity for reviewing the progress of the whole series, and estimating how far it has fulfilled its original purpose. This was set out by Dr. Botha, the former Chief Archivist of the Union, in the preface to Volume 1, part 1, as follows:

"It will enable the archivist to discuss problems, draw attention to new material coming into his custody and to any other matter which may be of assistance to the historical student. It will also serve the research scholar as a medium of giving others the benefit of his work."

Of these three aims, the last, the publication of the results of research, is on the face of it the least legitimate for an archival body, which is concerned (within the field of publication) with providing public tools — inventories, guides, calendars or transcripts — and not private conclusions. This for the archivist is a fundamental principle, for he is not a historian but the impartial custodian of authentic material. Yet this aim is the only one which has been pursued. Of the thirty contributions, varying in length from seven pages to over 400, only two short articles, both by Dr. P. J. Venter, have appeared on archival problems, and no attention has ever been drawn to new materials as such. The remaining twenty-eight are all historical and derivative.

It is certainly desirable, in order to avoid duplication of effort, that the results of one man's research should be available for others. But the publication of academic theses (seventeen have appeared in the series so far) is a very different matter. Even though the editorial board may find, in those theses which it has published, evidence of "thorough scientific work in the Archives" it is not justified in lending its own peculiar authority to work which must be partial and often immature. In any case such publication must be selective, and it is noteworthy that nearly half the theses emanate from one university. Surely it would be far better and more in keeping with the impartiality of the archivist to publish a guide to all historical theses relating to South Africa which are based on archival material, indicating where the text of the theses is available.

The volume for 1947 contains two works, a doctoral dissertation in Afrikaans by Miss M. J. Hugo on the vastly important subject of the franchise question in the South African Republic, and a genealogical table of the Kruger family down to the generation of President Kruger by Dr. E. E. Mossop. The his-

torical competence of these articles is better left to a historical journal to review; what we are here concerned with is the archival significance of the publication.

V. W. Hiller

Central African Archives

Bibliography of New Jersey Official Reports, 1905-1945, compiled by Dorothy Fordyce Lucas. (New Jersey State Department of Education, Division of State Library, Archives and History, 1947. Pp. vi, 256.)

This bibliography, begun by Miss Lucas in 1928 at the request of the New Jersey state librarian and admittedly not complete because of the difficulty in locating documents (blank pages are left in the book for noting additions which may turn up), lists reports of special committees authorized by the legislature, special studies issued by divisions of the state, and annual reports of state divisions and administrative commissions. In addition to the reports for 1905 to 1945, there are some for the years 1901 to 1904 which do not appear in Hasse's *Index*. Periodicals and series of bulletins and circulars issued by departments are purposely omitted.

The arrangement is explained very well by Miss Lucas in the preface. It is by year. Annual reports are listed separately, 183 pages of them. Each item (there are 1194) is numbered. Reports in legislative documents for the years 1905 to 1920 when the compilation was discontinued, are listed by year, giving a list of documents and contents in each volume. There is an index to legislative documents referring to year, volume and document. Finally there is a good general index to reports referring to item number of the report. This index has "see" and "see also" references to the index to legislative documents.

This modest volume may not be in great demand outside the State of New Jersey, but anyone who must search in documents of that State will find his task less because of it. For anyone who feels the need of such a bibliography of the documents of another state but who shrinks from the amount of work it entails, here is proof that it can be done.

Lillian Michaelis

Ohio State University Library

Calendar of Maryland State Papers. No. 3. The Brown Books, by Roger Thomas. State of Maryland Publications of the Hall of Records Commission No. 6. (Annapolis. Hall of Records Commission, 1948. Pp. vii, 180. $2.00.)

To those of us who live and work in the archivally backward Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the achievements of the Free State of Maryland are marvelous. No State has done a better job of publishing the more important parts of its records than the Free State has done in the *Archives of Maryland* series, but, not content with this, it has proceeded to print thorough calendars of the great mass of miscellaneous papers bound up as the Brown, Black, Blue, and Red Books series.

The Brown Books series is composed almost entirely of official correspondence of the period of the Revolution. The manuscripts are bound in eleven volumes with small regard to chronology, and the editors of the calendar have taken the opportunity to place the material in chronological order. A table of Brown Book and Calendar numbers arranged in the order of the former provides a ready cross reference. The system of calendaring follows Dr. Radoff's *Guide* and is thoroughly satisfactory in daily use. The summaries of the documents are generous and will suffice for a majority of the people who have reason to consult the Brown Books. The index is as good as is practical when dealing with such material. It is to be hoped that this excellent series will shame other States into doing likewise.

CLIFFORD K. SHIPTON

American Antiquarian Society

A Calendar of Ridgely Family Letters 1742-1899 in the Delaware State Archives edited and compiled by Leon de Valinger, Jr., State Archivist, and Virginia E. Shaw, Classifier, Family data supplied by Mrs. Henry Ridgely, vol. I. (Published privately by some descendants of the Ridgely Family for the Public Archives Commission, Dover, Delaware, 1948. Pp. 349. 36 illustrations.)

He who prepares a calendar is like Goethe's translator: "He shows you a veiled beauty, that you may long for the loveliness behind the veil." The editors of this calendar have been wise enough to allow the beauty to peep through her veil in the form of frequent quotations, so deftly interwoven with the abridgment as to make a smooth and pleasing narrative, as entertaining for straight reading as it is valuable for reference.

The collection under consideration is an almost unique one, embodying the almost complete correspondence of a large and lively family, of some importance not only in state but in national affairs for more than a century and a half. The informal and intimate character of the material, makes it of infinite value to the social historian, and one may predict for it a position in history almost comparable to that of the *Paston Letters*.

Faced with the difficulty of arranging so large and complex a collection, the editors have adopted the following scheme: "to devote an individual chapter to the male head of the family in each generation, and an additional one for his children. . . . The separate chapters designated for the children contain the exchange of correspondence among themselves and with friends and relatives but not with their parents." To the present writer, this scheme seems unduly complex, and results in such awkwardness as this: To follow the career of Henry M. Ridgely and his brother George as students at Dickinson College, in the 1790's, it is necessary to read their letters to their mother in one section of the volume, and then to turn to an entirely different section to read their letters to their friends, brothers and sisters. This would have been obviated by a chronological arrangement; but, perhaps, such an arrangement would have created other problems for other users. At all events, an excellent and

detailed index, with many cross-references, and sub-headings assures the research worker of finding all the material on his subject no matter how widely scattered.

Illustrations and typography are above reproach, and the genealogical, biographical and historical material make rich and rewarding reading.

ELIZABETH CLARKE KIEFFER

Franklin and Marshall College

Collected Public Documents of the States; a Check-List, compiled by William S. Jenkins for the National Association of State Libraries. (Boston. The Association, 1947. Pp. ix, 87. Cloth, $10.00.)

With this volume the National Association of State Libraries presents the final volume in its series of publications listing the basic printed sources of legislative and statutory history in the States. The three previous volumes, all compiled by Grace E. MacDonald, were the *Check-list of Session Laws* (1936), the *Check-list of Statutes of States of the United States of America* (1937), and the *Checklist of Legislative Journals of the States of the United States of America* (1938). Together, the two volumes last published list material in the field of state documents which may be compared to the material found in the *Congressional Series* in the field of federal documents.

As the compiler states in his very able preface, the collected documents here listed contain two main types of materials: executive documents, and legislative documents. These, of course, parallel, for the States, the papers submitted by the President along with his messages, which constitute the Federal executive documents; and the various papers ordered printed by Congress, which constitute the Federal legislative documents. The history of the authorized collection of this type of document in the States reveals for many of them a regrettable lack of real program, only thirteen States having continued into the 1940's a consistent policy of collecting and publishing. Four States have no published collections of documents at all, and for most of the other States collection was discontinued around the twenties, or even earlier.

The project of preparing the present check-list was carried on by the compiler over a period of ten years, during which time he had the advantage of working in two of the nation's most complete collections of State documents, at the Library of Congress, and at the University of North Carolina. In addition, he was the editor of a legislative journals microfilm project, a joint undertaking of these two institutions, the aim of which was to assemble a complete official record of the proceedings of all legislative bodies of the American colonies, territories and states. The list is based upon these two collections, supplemented by the microfilm project. Thus a library wishing to complete its files could readily do so through these sources.

The arrangement of the check-list, fully explained in the preface, is extremely simple to use, and for the librarian, or for the student who wants merely to ascertain the existence of collected documents for a certain year, wholly adequate. The state archivist will find in it a handy guide to the arrangement of

his own unpublished collections, and with its companion volumes will find something to give him a measure of control over the fundamental documents of his State.

DOROTHY V. MARTIN

National Archives

The Lincoln Papers. The Story of the Collection with Selections to July 4, 1861, by David C. Mearns. (Garden City, New York. Doubleday & Company, Inc., 1948. 2 vols. Pp. xvii, 681.)

Archivists will learn much from Mr. Mearns' brilliant and useful essay introductory to the first pair of a series of volumes of Lincoln papers. Here, in 133 pages which are a stylistic delight, is a detailed account of the vicissitudes and peregrinations of one of the most sought-after family archives in American history.

The biography of the Lincoln papers from the time the presidential nominee hired Nicolay and Hay as his secretaries through the tremendously publicized public opening in the summer of 1947 is an enthralling mystery story. To a large extent it concerns Robert Lincoln, who was custodian of the papers for over a half century after his father's death — and who tied them up for twenty-one years after his own death in 1926. Mr. Mearns has marshalled every available bit of evidence to explain and pierce the heavy velvet curtain of Victorian reticence with which Lincoln's son shrouded the papers for so many decades.

The great body of the Lincoln papers were the White House files, accumulated in the usual fashion, and customarily the property of the president. Immediately after the assassination, they were hastily packed and sent to Illinois. There they were stored in sealed boxes in a bank in Bloomington under the custody of Justice David Davis. Although Robert Lincoln denied access to the papers to Herndon, Lamon and other would-be biographers, in 1874 he turned them over to Nicolay and Hay for their judicious use in preparing the monumental *Abraham Lincoln: a History*. They remained in John Nicolay's Washington home until his death in 1901.

It was in that year that the Librarian of Congress, Herbert Putnam, at the suggestion of Ida Tarbell began a campaign to obtain the papers. Robert Lincoln gave him polite consideration but for years continued to keep them in his personal possession. For a while they were in Washington, then Chicago, and after 1911 followed their owner back and forth between Georgetown and Manchester, Vermont. Finally, in 1918, Robert Lincoln placed them on deposit in the Library of Congress, and four years later turned them over to the Library on a deed of gift.

During his lifetime, Robert Lincoln often spoke of his wish to sort through — or even burn — sections of the papers. He permitted only the official biographers, and briefly one other searcher, to see them. By terms of the gift, for a while the Library of Congress could not even allow access to an indexer. Respect for proprieties and fear of injuring those still living and

their immediate descendants in part dictated the policy. Unfortunately it gave ample latitude for the fantastic whispering of rumor-mongers, and between 1865 and 1947 a legend of the Lincoln papers, second only to the Lincoln legend itself, matured to hoary eminence.

Archivists will feel a warm sympathy toward the harassed custodians of the Lincoln papers from 1919 to 1947 and will be grateful to Mr. Mearns for his illuminating account of the collection.

FRANK FREIDEL

Vassar College

Treaties, Catalogue of an Exhibition at the Public Record Office (London, His Majesty's Stationery Office, 1948. Pp. 46. 1 s. net.)

The opening of a new Exhibition Room across a corridor from its main Museum, which is still housed in the old Rolls Chapel, was the occasion this past summer for the Public Record Office to publish a concise little booklet which is noteworthy for the clarity of its introduction to the subject of treaty format and style. Fifty-two representative treaty documents from the year 1197 to the year 1934 are now on display mainly in the new room and are here briefly described. One of the illustrative plates shows the signatures and seals on the British copy of the Treaty of Paris, 1783.

H. B. FANT

National Archives

Acuerdos de la Real Audencia del Nueva Reino de Granada. Tomo II. 1557-1567. Publicación del Archivo Nacional de Colombia. Directed by Enrique Ortega Ricaurte, assisted by Carlota Bustos Losada. (Bógota. Editorial Antena, 1948. Pp. 371.)

This second volume of the Acuerdos of the Royal Audiencia of New Granada covers the years 1557 to 1567 inclusively. During that period, there were a total of 175 sessions of the Audiencia which took place in seventy-nine of the months. In most of these months there were only one or two meetings but in two there were as many as seven. The business conducted included such subjects as: installation of royal appointees, especially new members of the Audiencia; bonds; oaths of office; treatment of the Indians; encomiendas and encomenderos; repartamientos; powers and accounts of officials; roads and bridges; new discoveries; silver mines; investigations; and other matters. An especially important entry records the reception accorded to the first president of the Nuevo Rieno in 1564 and gives the text of his title. There is also a notice of the establishment of an archive for the treasury in 1567. This volume, of the same pleasing format as its predecessor, contains much information on the early years of New Granada and is a documentary publication of the National Archive which is a valuable addition to the historiography of Colombia.

ROSCOE R. HILL

Washington, D. C.

Der Archivar. Mitteilungsblatt fuer deutsches Archivwesen. Jhrg. 1, Heft 3 (May 1948), Cols. 97-144.

The lead article which occupies thirty-eight of the forty-eight columns, reports on the measures taken to protect archives in the British Zone from damage during the war, the return of those archives to their proper repositories, the lessons learned from these experiences and a brief evaluation of losses sustained to archival collections, finding aids, and reference libraries. Eleven state archives and thirty-two municipal archives are covered. It is impossible here to digest all the important data which this article brings to light, but in it and similar articles one has the basis in fact for a comparison of prewar planning in Germany and elsewhere with the results, good and bad, of that planning. Some comments, which occasionally contradict each other will illustrate. For example, it is considered poor planning to store cultural materials adjacent to food and furniture which are subject to pilferage from many sources; it is undesirable to ship to repositories so distant that supervision is difficult and inspection impractical or impossible; fire extinguishers are of little use against a real fire; fire proof buildings, so called, are not adequate protection; frequent moves cause damage even to carefully packed materials; wooden boxes, especially when nailed or sealed, incite curiosity and so invite destruction. It is a good idea to make photocopies in some form of valuable items or indispensable aids such as catalogs; archival buildings should be erected outside population centers; duplicate sets of items should be stored in separate localities; salt mines are good repositories; packing boxes are superior to loose bundles or paper cartons in the protection they afford; covered furniture vans are excellent means of transport; and central direction of air raid protection is desirable and effective.

The second article (cols. 133-140), which is written in well documented style by Ahasver von Brandt, director of the archive of Hansa City in Luebeck, is entitled "Schicksalsfragen deutscher Archive." The fate of German archives with which von Brandt is primarily concerned is that of the Prussian State Archives of Koenigsberg, and those of the Free City of Danzig, although he brings into his argument the Prussian State Archives at Stettin and Breslau. His argument is worth serious study, even though unavoidably partisan, in connection with the final disposition of the archives belonging to the territory over which sovereignty has changed. Von Brandt argues that the basic principle of keeping archives with the territory to which they pertain would be improper in the case of Koenigsberg, Danzig and probably Stettin and Breslau, because the population, the laws, the administrative principles in connection with which the archives grew are no longer in existence. He argues that the population, not the land, is the legal and moral owner of the archives. It seems to me that not all of his points are well made, but that he succeeds in posing a question of "moral" law which is hard to answer according to established international law.

Among the minor contributions is a series of notes (cols. 140-143) on steps taken since the Detmold meeting to assure coverage on the history of Germans

driven out of the East; a notice of the archive of letters of musicians created by a private scholar and dealer in Berlin; official notices; list of missing archives sought; removal of the former Prussian State Archives at Keil to its new location in Schloss Gottorp in the town of Schleswig; notice of the joint meeting of the Verein deutscher Archivare and Gesamtverein der deutschen Geschichte — und Altertumsvereine scheduled for September 6-7, but which was subsequently postponed.

LESTER K. BORN
Office of Military Government for Germany, Karlsruhe

Der Archivar. Mitteilungsblatt fuer deutsches Archivwesen. Jhrg. 1, Heft 4 (August 1948), Cols. 145-192.

This number contains five major contributions of considerable interest and importance. The first is a report (cols. 147-158) on the condition of state, municipal, county, and church archives in the Rhineland and Palatinate, i.e., the upper part of the French Zone. The detailed notes on individual institutions are prepared in accordance with the scheme noted in our review in THE AMERICAN ARCHIVIST for January 1948. These notes on the two state, twenty-four city and county, and six church archives are preceded by an introduction, signed by Aloys Schmidt of the State Archives at Coblenz, which details the story of archives stored in Ehrenbreitstein, the old fortress on the heights across the river from Coblenz. The story is no less interesting because it is not unique: vehicles were lacking; laborers were non-existent; food, clothing, furniture (all excellent bait for pilferers) were stored adjacent to archives; and rail transportation for re-evacuation was disorganized. Schmidt gives generous thanks to the archival staffs, the engineers, the representatives of French and British Military Governments for their energy, planning, and help in storing and / or returning the materials stored in more than a hundred rooms.

The second article (cols. 157-170) reports on the condition of some 150 family archives in the American (34), French (2), and British (116) Zones according to the established scheme of reporting. As could be guessed, family archives have, in general, suffered negligible war damage because of their habitual seclusion in isolated castles. Some of these castles, however, were destroyed or damaged, or have been requisitioned for other purposes, and the archives once located there have been left without a home of their own. In this they share the fate of many public archives.

The third article (cols. 169-178), which, like the second, is unsigned, is the second part of the article on wartime protection and postwar developments of archives in the British Zone. It reports on forty-two church archives and eight business archives. These latter suffered considerable war damage since they were usually stored, albeit in strong rooms, in or near the factories to which they were related. The church archives enjoyed — or suffered — the same unpredictable fate as those of public institutions.

The fourth article (cols. 177-182), by Carl Wilkes of Duesseldorf, deals

with the protection of non-state archives of the Rhine Province, Prussia, against the effects of war. Most of his space is given to illustrations of the close cooperation of all protective agencies, to the planning of evacuations, the setting up and the constant inspection of repositories. The author believes that the comparatively small losses suffered by non-state archives in the hard hit Rhineland are the best tribute to the quality of work done.

The fifth article (cols. 181-184), again unsigned, reports according to the established scheme on the fate of the more important archives in Saxony. The pleasant surprise of having at hand this information gathered from behind the "Iron Curtain" in itself makes the article interesting. Most of the ten archives reported on suffered only minor losses or damages, and most have been reopened since the end of hostilities.

Minor contributions include the usual brief official notices from parts of the British Zone; a list of missing items sought by the State Archive at Bremen; personalia; the list of deceased archivists; a memorial (cols. 187-191) on Ivo Striedinger, formerly Director of State Archives of Bavaria and editor of the *Archivalische Zeitschrift*, which was written by Fridolin Solleder, Director of the State Archives at Nuremberg; a notice that graduates of the Evangelical Library School at Goettingen are receiving a brief introduction to archival practices, since they will in most cases be responsible for libraries and archives alike; a very favorable review, by Volmer of Duesseldorf, of the *Mitteilungen des oesterreichischen Staatsarchivs*; and a four line notice of the postponement, as a result of the money reform, of the archivists' meeting from September 1948 to May 1949.

This number, which brings to a close the first year of this new periodical, illustrates the effectiveness of the planning and the obvious need for such a publication. The editor is to be congratulated on his accomplishment.

LESTER K. BORN

Office of Military Government for Germany, Karlsruke

Mitteilungen des Österreichischen Staatsarchivs. Herausgegeben von der Generaldirektion. Vol. I, fasc. 1. (Vienna. Österreichische Staatsdruckerei, 1948. 16 Austrian schilling or 20 Swiss frs.)

By publishing the *Mitteilungen des Österreichischen Staatsarchivs*, the Office of the Director General of the Austrian State Archives resumes the tradition of the *Historische Blätter*, since 1921 the historical journal of the former *Haus- Hof- und Staatsarchiv* in Vienna. The new serial deserves the attention of archivists as well as that of scholars of European history.

In the preface to Fascicle 1 of Volume I, Leo Santifaller, the Director General of the Austrian State Archives, announces the entire publication program of his office. It includes, in addition to the *Mitteilungen*, the continuation of the inventories of the public archives of Austria and of the great documentary publications, entitled *Österreichische Zentralverwaltung* and *Österreichische Staatsverträge*, and a new publication, the *Publikationen des Österreichischen Staatsarchivs*. This ambitious program is ample evidence of

the admirable scholarly aims of Austria's archivists and merits the applause and the active support of their colleagues in all lands.

The *Mitteilungen* is not an exclusively professional journal like THE AMERICAN ARCHIVIST. Besides cultivating *archivwissenschaft*, that is, archival history and archival administration, diplomatics, and other auxiliary sciences of history, it wants to publish articles and documents pertaining to the history of the late Middle Ages and of modern and very recent items. Fascicle 1 of the first volume clearly reveals the dualistic nature of the journal; for, by far the largest part of it is taken up by Leo Santifaller's "Quellen sur Geschichte des spätmittelalterlichen Ablass-und Reliquienwesen aus schlesischen Archivs" (Silesian archival sources pertaining to the history of indulgences and relics during the late Middle Ages) and by Heinrich Benedikt's "Die europäische Politik der Pforte vor Beginn und während des österreichischen Erbfolgekriegs" (Turkey's European policy before and during the War for the Austrian Succession).

These articles as well as two shorter ones do not fall within the scope of this review. Archivists, however, will be much interested in Jakob Seidl's "Das Österreichische Staatsarchiv" because this informative essay will assist them in tracing the history of the present Austrian State Archives back to the pre-*Anschluss* situation. In imperial times and under the Republic, when Austria did not have a centralized archives set-up, records of central government agencies were in the custody of the *Haus-, Hof- und Staatsarchiv*, the *Hofkammerarchiv*, the *Staatsarchiv des Innern und der Justiz*, and some other ministerial archival agencies. As has happened so often in the history of archives administration, a political crisis of major proportions resulted in archival progress: Anschluss and the discontinuation of Austria's central administrative machinery that followed it, made it necessary to consolidate the various ministerial archives into the *Reichsarchiv Wien* which was placed under the supervision of the *Reich* Ministry of the Interior. When Austria regained its independence, the *Reichsarchiv* became the present Austrian State Archives, composed of four main divisions including the former *Kriegsarchiv* which, in Nazi times, had been under the control of the High Command of the Armed Forces. In addition to describing the organizational history of the Austrian State Archives, Seidl deals with the recent development of its holdings, with their evacuation to places of safety during the war, and with their shipping back to Vienna in 1945, a major operation in which the Red Army participated by furnishing the necessary trucks. The only major wartime loss was that of the records of the Austrian Council of State for the period from 1760 to 1833, a loss that is particularly lamentable because the corresponding records of the Austrian-Bohemian Court Chancery became the victim of the conflagration of the Vienna Justice Building in 1927. While it has been possible to bring the archives back to Vienna, conditions are of course far from being satisfactory. The holdings are scattered over a number of buildings, most of them inadequate, and the staff has been cut in half and is overaged so that there is real danger of a great archival tradition getting lost. The

splendid archives, however, so indispensable for research in European history, are practically intact, and their custodians stand ready to serve the scholars of all countries.

In addition to Seidl's article, Walter Goldinger's review of *Archivwissenschaftliche Literatur der Jahre 1938 bis 1947* (Writings on the history and administration of archives 1938 to 1947) deserves being called to the attention of American archivists. Prior to 1938, the *Jahresberichte für deutsche Geschichte* included regular annual reports on the recent archival literature of Germany and adjacent German speaking countries. Goldinger's bibliographical study is intended to fill the gap caused by the discontinuation of the *Jahresberichte* and, beyond that, to list the pertinent writings in non-German languages. War and postwar conditions have made it impossible for him to attain his goal. For the countries under German wartime control, however, and certainly for Central Europe, his report makes available a great wealth of hitherto unknown articles and monographs in the field, many of them indispensable for the archivist interested in the comparative study of professional problems and in the history of archival administration.

The issue of the *Mitteilungen* here under review also contains an article on the Archives of the Government of Steiermark in Graz, a summary of activities of the French Archives, and a report on the publication of the *Österreichische Staatsverträge* which will be of interest to students of diplomatic history and international law.

ERNST POSNER

The American University

Ocherki Po Istorii Arkhivnogo Dela V. S. S. S. R. (Sketches on the History of Archival Care in the U. S. S. R.), by I. L. Maiakovsky. Part I. (Moscow. Historico-Archival Institute, 1941. Pp. 343.)

I. L. Maiakovsky is the dean of Russian archivists whose lectures at the Petrograd Archaeological Institute in prerevolutionary years always attracted graduate students and scholars. The field of archival studies and its relation to research and teaching was at that time a comparatively new discipline and rapidly won enthusiasts. Maiakovsky's course, given at the Petrograd Institute in 1918, was published as a book two years later.[1] This was not the first Russian textbook on archival science. P. E. Andreevsky published his *Nauka ob Arkivakh* (Archival Science) in 1885 and a decade later A. P. Voronov followed up with a *Konspekt Lektsii Po Arkhivovedeniu* (An Outline of Lectures on Archival Care). Other historians and archivists also published works on the subject at this time or even earlier. However, the field of Russian archival study was still in its adolescence. Moreover, the history of archival science, like history in general, was written in that period with little

[1] Under the title, *Istoricheskii Ocherk Arkhivnogo Dela V Rossii* (An Historical Sketch of Archival Care in Russia) by I. L. Maiakovsky, Petrograd, 1920. Pp. 175. A review of this work by S. Bogoiavlensky will be found in *Krasnyi Arkhiv*, Vol. I, 1926, p. 422.

or no regard to the economic and socio-political factors that helped shape Russian culture.

Maiakovsky's present work is a far cry from his earlier effort. The seventeen chapters take the reader through the entire length of Russian history, from ancient times to 1917. Maiakovsky reveals that recently unearthed archives throw new light on the history of the Turkomans, Tadzhik, Uzbek and other nationalities of the U. S. S. R. One such cache was found in 1933 in Tadzhikistan. An excavation of the palace of Divashtich, the ruler of Sogdian (722 A.D.), produced eighty-one documents written on paper, leather and long wooden sticks. The writings were in Chinese, Arabic, Sogdian and in an unknown language.

Even before the introduction of Christianity, Kievan-Russia had learned the technique of drawing up records and the preservation of books from the Byzantine Empire and from the Greek and Bulgarian clergy.

Russian acceptance of Christianity had a stimulating effect on the preservation of written records. Yaroslav I, a great legislator, brought to the St. Sophia Monastery in Kiev a number of scribes who were kept busy copying religious books and state records. The "keepers of books" played an important role in the Russian monasteries. The period of Russian unification under Ivan III, who assumed the title of Tsar, witnessed the bringing together of records from Tsver, Novgorod, Suzdal, Rostov and other principalities.

When, in 1715, Peter the Great who hated Moscow, decided to move his capital to St. Petersburg, he placed the state archives under the jurisdiction of the Senate and ordered the Moscow collections brought to St. Petersburg. The records were placed in wooden crates and a horse-drawn procession of 111 wagons started for St. Petersburg. The back breaking journey over muddy roads and across rivers and mountains took almost two months. It was no fault of the well meaning Tsar that the transfer proved unfortunate. The great flood of 1824 played havoc with a great part of the Senate Archive.

One person to whom Russia is greatly indebted for saving and modernizing the care of historical materials is the German-Russian historian, Gerard F. Mueller (1705-1783). Mueller was commissioned by the Academy of Science to head an expedition to Kamchatka, spent ten years traveling all over Siberia, and discovered and turned over to the Archaeological Society such an amount of archival wealth that it "has not as yet been fully studied." [2]

Among other scholars in the field of Russian archival science was Nikolai V. Kalachov (1819-1885) who studied western European archival practices, especially the French *Ecole des Chartes*, and established the first Archaeological Institute in 1877. Dmitry I. Damokvasov (1843-1911) developed a plan for centralizing the Russian archives — a plan which was modified and adopted by the Second Archaeological Congress held in Kiev in 1899. But, despite its adoption, the government never provided sufficient funds and facilities to safeguard and develop the country's historical treasures. As years passed, the

[2] *Malaia Sovetskaia Entsiklopedia* (Small Soviet Encyclopedia) Moscow, 1930, Vol. V, p. 214.

major concession on the part of the government was the establishment of another Archaeological Institute in Moscow in 1907 which functioned as a private institution.

The important phases in the reorganization of Russian archival science are described by Maiakovsky not only in relation to the internal situation in Russia and the changes in the government, but also in relation to the evolution of archival work in Western Europe, especially Germany and France. The author provides examples showing that the destruction of many documentary collections in Russia was caused by lack of storage facilities, negligence or sheer ignorance. Peasant uprisings were usually accompanied by setting fire to the landlords' records that fixed the serf-status, taxes and other obligations of the peasantry.

The more important archives in Imperial Russia were under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. These included the major Moscow Archive and the State and Central Archives in St. Petersburg. The Vitebsk Archive of ancient protocols was later joined with the Kiev Archive. The Vilna Archive also had an invaluable collection of old records. The Military-Scientific Archive of the General Staff and the Naval Archive had an independent status and were among the oldest. The sovereigns kept their own private archives and these sometimes contained the most confidential papers. Every *Gubernia* (province) had on the average from 1000 to 1500 governmental and community archives.

Maiakovsky mentions some of the private collections. It would be extremely valuable to know the location and condition of these private archives of the former Russian nobility which were nationalized by the Soviets after the Revolution. One hopes that Maiakovsky may give us this information in the second volume of his work which is to deal with the really enormous advancement of archival work under the Soviets.

The introduction states that M. N. Pokrovsky's erroneous conception of history led to a "disdainful attitude to the problems of safeguarding and developing the historical monuments of the peoples of the U. S. S. R." (p. 17). While this writer is far from accepting Pokrovsky's theories, he believes that the above statement does not jibe with the fact that it was Pokrovsky who, during the years following the Revolution, saved national and many local archives from pillage by men and from destruction by the elements — a fact which was widely acknowledged before Pokrovsky's death in 1932.[3]

The lack of an index in Maiakovsky's work is regrettable and, while the detailed table of contents is useful, it is no substitute for an index. This is a major work on archival care in old Russia, done with love and knowledge of the subject. Historians and archivists will await with great interest the publication of the second volume dealing with the Soviet period which was initiated by Lenin's decree of July 1, 1918.

Cleveland Public Library LEONID S. RUBINCHEK

[3] A more detailed discussion of this subject will be found in *A Digest of the Krasnyi Arkhiv* (Red Archives) by L. S. Rubinchek, ed. by L. M. Boutelle and G. W. Thayer, Cleveland Public Library, Cleveland, Ohio, 1947.

Repertorio Bibliográfico de los Archivos Mexicanos y de las Colecciones Diplomáticas Fundamentales para la Historia de México, by Augustin Millares Carlo and José Ignacio Mantecón. [Publicaciones del Instituto de Historia, primera serie, numero 6]. (Mexico. Imprenta Aldina, 1948. Pp. xv, 186.)

This is the sixth number in the series of publications of the Instituto de Historia of the National University of Mexico. Their purpose is to provide source material for further study and research by scholars and historians interested in the development of the Mexican Republic. The student of Mexican history cannot overlook these important sources.

The Repertorio Bibliografico is divided into two parts: First, a bibliography of archives; and second, documentary collections which are fundamental in the study of Mexican history. Pages 161-186 contain an index to entries found in both parts and in the section of additions which the compilers have included. The listings in each section are in logical order: that is, material dealing with all America, then with Mexico, its various districts, cities, and the like. Under certain geographical divisions are found, frequently, good information dealing with the early archives of the region, particularly stating where disastrous fires and other causes have destroyed archival material, and indicating where other important publications may be found.

This bibliography will prove to be valuable because of its logical order and the ease with which it may be used. It is an important addition to published material available on Mexico. The compilers have been careful to include full citations for most entries. It is gratifying to see that series notes are included in the various listings, a matter too frequently overlooked by bibliographers and publishers. The "Indice analitico" is of great aid in the use of this publication; but, as is often the case, it cannot be relied upon completely. The annotations are quite helpful; the print is very good and typographical errors are few.

Clyde H. Cantrell

Alabama Polytechnic Institute

Zentralblatt fuer Bibliothekswesen. Jhrg. 62, Heft 1/2 (Jan/Apr 1948). Cols. 1-118.

The pattern of content for this second year is identical with that of the first. However, coverage in such departments as News and Notes, Minor Contributions and Personalia is much more catholic in inclusion of items from the western zones and in foreign news. The classified bibliography of just over 100 items still contains only two that were received for review. Of historical interest are an article (pp. 49-86) by Rudolph Buelck entitled "Bie Kieler Universitaetsbibliothek . . . 1793 bis 1823" based largely on documentation available in the Staatsarchiv at Kiel, and an article (pp. 26-48) by Wieland Schmidt of Berlin entitled cryptically "CLM," which is a history of the cataloging and, therefore, of provience of manuscripts in the Bavarian State Library; i.e., *codices latini monacenses*. An article (pp. 4-26) on "Die Saechische Landesbibliothek zu Dresden im Wiederaufbau" by Karl Assmann,

who had been director since October 1945 and who has been a professional member of the staff since January 1919, gives in extensive form the kind of information which is summarized in Georg Leyh's book (reviewed in THE AMERICAN ARCHIVIST, XI, No. 3 (July 1948), 263-265): the buildings, the wartime evacuations and repositories, losses, postwar rehabilitation, separation of Nazi and militaristic literature, and personnel. From May 25, 1945 to February 27, 1947 the collection of books and the catalogs were moved three times "without interrupting the current internal operations of the library, the administration, the acquisition, and the cataloguing of the books for even a single day." The library has finally come to rest in its own building, a former caserne.

LESTER K. BORN
Office of Military Government for Germany, Karlsruhe

Zentralblatt fuer Bibliothekswesen. Jhrg. 62, Hft 3 (May/June 1948). Cols. 119-174.

This first single number to appear differs from the preceding double numbers only in two respects: the smaller number of pages, and, in the classified bibliography, the high percentage of items received for review; i.e., ten out of some sixty. Rudolph Blum of Berlin contributes an article (pp. 132-144) on the general problem of "duplicates" in which he analyses the several ideas confused under "exchange" — that is, book for book, value for value, and the like; states the imperative need for using to the maximum all library resources in the postwar rebuilding program; frankly faces the issue that not all libraries merit priorities in acquisitions at this time; argues the ways and means of evaluation of books and priorities. He ends with two concrete suggestions. 1) Institutions must be divided by types and within types priorities of opportunity to acquire new materials through exchange must be set up. For example, if four categories are set up, then the most important libraries get four times as many opportunities as do the least important. 2) Books must be divided according to subject, general nature, publication date, and size. According to a fixed scale for each of the criteria a combined "value" in points would be fixed for every book and periodical. For example, scientific literature published between 1800 and 1889 gets one point for a volume up to 160 pages and five points for a volume with 160 to 480 pages, but the same type published between 1920 and 1948 gets eight and ten points, respectively. The latest editions of reading room reference works gets twelve and sixty points, respectively. For volumes over 480 pages a percentage scale of increase is applied. This system, which would require the keeping of credit and debit ledgers in the central exchange office, avoids all questions of money value in a world in which currencies and prices are none too stable.

Friedrich Schmidt-Ott writes (pp. 145-157) about "Der Bibliotheksausschuss der Notmeinschaft der deutschen Wissenschaft" in an article in which he reviews the formulation of this society for aid to German scholarship after the last war, and, in particular, the excellent record in its committee on li-

braries. He makes no specific recommendations for its revival at the present time. In the minor contributions Georg Leyh expresses the hope that the Verein der deutschen Bibliothekare (modeled on that of the archivists) will renew publication of the *Jahrbuch der Bibliotheken*. Ernst Mehl, in his report on the Bavarian State Library, calls attention to the fact that this institution will probably lose to re-requisition by Amerika Haus considerable space which it shares with the Bavarian State Archives. This latter has already lost most of its space.

LESTER K. BORN

Office of Military Government for Germany, Karlsruhe

W. J. BARROW

Document Restorer

STATE LIBRARY BUILDING

RICHMOND 19, VA.

News Notes

MARY C. LETHBRIDGE, Editor

The National Archives

THE SOCIETY OF AMERICAN ARCHIVISTS

The following applicants for membership have been approved by the Council since the annual meeting in October, 1948: Robert E. Beets, AGO, Department of the Army, St. Louis; Katherine E. Brand, National Archives; Herford T. Cowling, United States Air Forces, Wright Field, Ohio; Albert Dannenhirsch, National Archives; Mabel E. Deutrich, Office of Chief of Engineers, Department of the Army, Washington, D. C.; Charles E. Dewing, National Archives; John W. Dudley, Virginia State Library; Norman Fee, Canadian Archives, Ottawa; Helen T. Finneran, National Archives; John H. Flandreau, New York State Archives; Herbert L. Ganter, William and Mary College; Beryl E. Gardner, Maryland Hall of Records; Mrs. J. E. Hays, State Historian of Georgia; William A. Hunter, Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission; Lucile M. Kane, Minnesota Historical Society; Guy A. Lee, National Security Resources Board; James C. Olson, Nebraska Historical Society; Milton V. Ritter, National Archives; Charles L. Stout, National Security Resources Board; Sarah Hodgson Torian, University of the South; Joseph F. Vaughan, National Security Resources Board; Harless Wagoner, National Security Resources Board.

Minutes of the Council, The Society of American Archivists, December 29, 1948.

A special meeting of the Council of the Society of American Archivists was called by the President and convened at the Hotel Mayflower, Washington, D. C., December 29, 1948, at 4:30 P.M., jointly with the Council of the American Association for State and Local History.

Present for the Society of American Archivists: the president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, and Messrs. Holmes, Posner, and Trever.

After considerable discussion of the proposal made by the Library of Congress in October that a Joint Commission on Historical Manuscripts be set up by the two organizations represented at the present meeting, the following resolution was voted:

Be it resolved

That there be established a Joint Committee on Historical Manuscripts of the Society of American Archivists and the American Association for State and Local History consisting of two members of the Society of American Archivists appointed by the president of the Society and two members of the American Association for State and Local History appointed by the president of that Association, and a fifth member

from the staff of the Division of Manuscripts of the Library of Congress appointed by the two presidents in consultation with the chief of that Division;

That the Joint Committee be instructed to report within sixty (60) days of the present date to the respective presidents of the Society of American Archivists and the American Association for State and Local History on creating a plan for compiling and publishing a union list of manuscript collections and devising means for putting the plan into effect.

The meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

LESTER J. CAPPON, Secretary

THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

Joint resolutions have been introduced in both Houses of Congress providing for the Archivist of the United States to acquire and to operate the Freedom Train for the next two years. The 16-months' tour of the train under the sponsorship of the American Heritage Foundation ended in Washington on January 22, and its unique exhibit will be dismantled unless the Government takes over the train. The resolutions, which have bipartisan sponsorship, provide for a Freedom Train Commission to advise the Archivist. Its membership would consist of the President pro tempore of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the minority leaders of the Senate and of the House, the Attorney General of the United States, the Librarian of Congress, the Archivist, and five members to be appointed by the President.

The Guide to the Records in the National Archives, 684 p., came off the press the first of February. Cloth-bound copies are for sale by the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, and by the Exhibits and Information Officer, National Archives, for $2.50 each. Records received by the National Archives through December 31, 1945, are described in the main body of the *Guide*; those received between that date and June 30, 1947, are listed in an appendix. Recent publications of the National Archives include *Reference Information Circulars* on *Materials in the National Archives Relating to Transportation*, compiled in the Industrial Records Division, and on *Civilian Personnel Records in the National Archives*, by Seymour J. Pomrenze, and a *Preliminary Inventory of the Records of the War Production Board*, compiled by Fred G. Halley and Josef C. James. Copies may be obtained from the Exhibits and Information Officer.

Among records transferred to the National Archives are additional general records of the United States Senate, including copies of bills and committee reports, 1947-48, and Senate reports and documents, 1945-47; and the papers (1900-1945) of Robert E. Horton, hydraulic engineer and pioneer in snow surveying and hydrological surveys, which came from the American Geophysical Union of the National Research Council, to which Mr. Horton left them at his death. Also recently received are photographs pertaining to aviation in World War I, photographs collected or made by the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics showing foreign aircraft, 1925-40, and photographs made at the trial of the major German war criminals before the International

Military Tribunal at Nuremberg as well as photographic evidence submitted at the trial.

The Archivist of the United States has announced the appointment of Theodore R. Schellenberg to serve as Program Adviser of the National Archives. Mr. Schellenberg was a member of the staff from 1935 to 1945, when he went to the Office of Price Administration to plan and conduct that agency's records program. Philip C. Brooks, who since 1935 has served the National Archives in many capacities, most recently as Assistant Director of the General Records Division, has transferred to the National Security Resources Board to take charge of its records program. Martin P. Claussen has transferred from the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library at Hyde Park, where he was in charge of the finding-aids and publications program, to the Department of the Army to serve as Assistant Chief of the Departmental Records Branch of the Adjutant General's Office.

Employees of the National Archives received the following letter concerning the death of Thomas M. Owen, Jr.:

The death of Thomas M. Owen, Jr., a retired member of the staff of the National Archives, occurred at the Bethesda Naval Medical Center on December 5, 1948, after several months of illness.

In point of service, Mr. Owen was one of the oldest employees of the National Archives. He was appointed Chief of the Division of Accessions on May 14, 1935. When the Division of Veterans' Administration Records was created in June of 1938, Mr. Owen became its chief. Although changes subsequently occurred in the name of that Division, Mr. Owen continued to serve as its chief until March 1948, when he was compelled by his physical condition to give up active work. He retired because of physical disability on August 20, 1948.

Mr. Owen was a graduate of the University of Alabama. He served as an officer in the Field Artillery during World War I and thereafter was active in organizing the American Legion in Alabama. For some years prior to joining the National Archives staff he served as Assistant Director of the Department of Archives and History of the State of Alabama. In 1933 Mr. Owen was elected National Historian of the American Legion and he served in that capacity until his death.

As a veteran himself and as a national officer of the American Legion, Mr. Owen was intensely interested in the welfare of veterans and particularly in the preservation and administration of veterans' records in a manner that would facilitate their use for the benefit of veterans and their dependents. Because of this interest and by reason of his previous archival experience, Mr. Owen, during the decade in which he had charge of the noncurrent pension records of our Government, contributed immensely to the work of the National Archives by providing for the adequate preservation of these valuable records and by making them, year by year, more and more readily available for use by veterans and their dependents and by others.

Tom Owen was not only a capable and faithful employee, but he was a kind, friendly, and considerate man who had an abiding faith in his fellowmen. He loved people and was genuinely interested in them, their problems, and their successes. The welfare of employees under his supervision was a matter of real and continuing concern to him. He will be missed by a wide circle of friends.

The National Archives is grateful for the faithful and efficient manner in which Tom Owen performed his duties and is glad that it had on its staff a man of such outstanding good will.

THE FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT LIBRARY

The Franklin D. Roosevelt Library has been permitted by the Office of the Governor of New York to borrow the papers of Franklin D. Roosevelt as Governor of New York and of Herbert H. Lehman as Lieutenant Governor in order that it may microfilm them. When the film has been completed, the original papers will be turned over to the New York State Archivist at Albany, together with a set of the micofilm for the use of the Governor's Office. Another set of the microfilm will be retained at the Library for use by searchers.

Mrs. Constance R. Winant has presented the papers of her husband, the late John G. Winant, to the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library. The papers covering his ambassadorship and other European activities have not yet arrived in this country, but they will also be given to the Library. None of the papers are as yet available for research use.

Among materials in the Library recently opened for research are White House correspondence concerning the American Red Cross, 1933-1945, the personal diary of Thomas W. Brahany, Chief Clerk of the White House Executive Office, March 4 to April 24, 1917, and the school records and papers of Franklin D. Roosevelt, 1890-1904, comprising his tutorial papers, 1890-96, the Groton School papers, 1896-1900, and the Harvard College papers, 1899-1904. The Library has also made available the logbook of the houseboat *Larooco*, which contains entries for the period 1924-26.

TRAINING OF ARCHIVISTS

The fifth summer training course in the Preservation and Administration of Archives for custodians of public, institutional, and business records will be offered by The American University in Washington, D. C., with the cooperation of the National Archives, the Division of Manuscripts of the Library of Congress and the Maryland Hall of Records from July 25-August 20, 1949. The program will consist of lectures on the most important phases of work with records and manuscripts, demonstrations, and group conferences, in such fields as arrangment and description of record and manuscript material, repair and preservation, and cataloging. It will also include laboratory work in the National Archives and in the Maryland Hall of Records, which institutions will grant to the students the privileges of interns for the duration of the course. For those especially interested in the care of historical manuscripts, internships will be available in the Division of Manuscripts of the Library of Congress, and special lectures and laboratory experience will be provided for students whose work calls for emphasis on the basic problems of the administration of current records.

Ernst Posner, Professor of History and Archives Administration, The American University; Philip M. Hamer, Director of Records Control, the National Archives; Solon J. Buck, Chief, Division of Manuscripts, Library of Congress; Morris L. Radoff, Archivist, Maryland Hall of Records; Helen L. Chatfield, Record Officer, Bureau of the Budget, Executive Office of the

President; Lester J. Cappon, Archivist, Colonial Williamsburg; and members of the staffs of the National Archives and the Maryland Hall of Records will serve as instructors. The fee for the entire course, in which veterans may enroll under Public Laws 16 and 346, will be $40.00. Detailed infomation may be obtained by writing to Ernst Posner, School of Social Sciences and Public Affairs, The American University, 1901 F Street, Northwest, Washington 6, D. C.

HOOVER COMMISSION

A Federal Records Administration to simplify government record keeping was proposed in December by the Hoover Commission on Reorganization of the Executive Branch of the Government, reports say. Records management is one of 24 major problems before the Commission. It has stated that government records now total 18,500,000 cubic feet, enough to fill six Pentagon buildings, with a yearly cost of one and two-tenths billion dollars.

The proposed administration would have as one of its integral parts the National Archives, which now handles about five per cent of the Government records. At present there are 100 records centers operated by individual departments and agencies. The subcommittee making the recommendations estimates that savings of 32 million dollars could be made in the first two years, with annual savings of six million dollars after that.

The Commission's report, although circulating to a small group of officials, is still confidential as this journal goes to press.

INTERAGENCY RECORDS ADMINISTRATION CONFERENCE

IRAC's December 17 meeting gave the members an opportunity to combine business with pleasure. The former was a panel discussion on "Sampling Techniques in Records Preservation"; the latter, the regular "Winter Reception" which took place in the National Archives Conference Room immediately after the regular meeting. Kenneth Munden of the Department of the Army presided at the discussion and presented the following speakers: W. Edwards Deming, Bureau of the Budget; Marius Fariolette, Bureau of Internal Revenue; John Dethman, Civil Aeronautics Board; and Harry Harman, Department of the Army. Last season's chairman John Britt of the Federal Security Agency was in charge of the refreshments and other arrangements for the reception.

On January 14 Mr. Britt was the presiding officer at the regular monthly meeting. The discussion was on "Field Records Problems." Paul Howard, Field Representative, Division of Field Services, Federal Security Agency, and Ken Hoover, Agriculture's Soil Conservation Service Records Officer examined the problems of duplication, centralization, standardization, disposal and training as they relate to Federal records in the field.

Attendance at both the December and January meetings was approximately 130 persons.

Tentative topics for forthcoming meetings of the Conference this season include an analysis of procedures for handling incoming mail, an examination of the Hoover Commission's report on records administration, a study of records problems in the Department of State, and a report by a special IRAC committee on allocation standards for records personnel.

MARINE CORPS

The Research, Archives and Library Branch of the Historical Section, United States Marine Corps, is the temporary resting place of Marine Corps records of historical value. It is the dissemination point of historical information regarding the Marine Corps, particularly for the writing staff of the Historical Section. The Historical Section is a part of the Division of Public Information, United States Marine Corps Headquarters. The present Officer in Charge of the Historical Section is Lt. Col. Robert D. Heinl, Jr. Mr. Joel D. Thacker is Chief, Research, Archives and Library; Mr. John W. Porter is Archivist and Librarian.

The records held by Research, Archives and Library are mostly those of World War II on which the Historical Section is basing its official monographs on World War II campaigns of the Marine Corps. To date four monographs have been published: *Tarawa, The Battle of Midway, Wake Island* and *Bougainville.* Other monographs are being prepared.

OFFICE METHODS DIVISION, NAVY DEPARTMENT

The Office Methods Division has recently completed a volume inventory of records in the Naval Establishment. This inventory showed a total of 3,144,563 cubic feet or an increase of less than 3 percent over a similar survey made in 1946. The volume of records held by the Operating Forces and the Navy Department, however, has decreased; the increase in total volume being accounted for by a small increase in the Shore Establishment but principally by the increase in holdings at Naval Records Management Centers. These Centers, located at Arlington, Virginia, Garden City, New York, Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania, New Orleans, Louisiana and San Bruno, California, now hold over 890,000 cubic feet of non-current records or 30% of the total volume of Navy records. These holdings comprise practically all the Navy's wartime records except those that have been transferred to the National Archives. The total quantity of Navy records has been kept to its present level by destruction, since 1942, of 1,130,075 cubic feet of records in accordance with authorized records disposal schedules and by transfers to the National Archives of 81,627 cubic feet.

Seven million names in Navy civilian and military personnel files were recently reviewed to determine alphabetic letter frequencies. The result was tabulated on a percentage basis and has proved quite useful in planning file installations, particularly in relation to space allocations for specific letter groups. Copies of this tabulation are available if requests are directed to the

Office Methods Division, Administrative Office, Navy Department, Washington 25, D. C.

Robert A. Shiff has resigned as Director of the Naval Records Management Center, Garden City, New York, and has been succeeded by Charles A. Henderson as Acting Director. Mr. Henderson was Director of the Naval Records Management Center, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, prior to its disestablishment. Maxcy R. Dickson, formerly Assistant District Records Management Officer at New Orleans, Louisiana, and previously on the staff of the National Archives, has been named District Records Management Officer at Charleston, South Carolina.

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Thirteen nations were represented at the conference of the International Federation for Documentation held at the Hague, June 17 to 24, 1948. The Library Section, the Bibliographical Section and the Science Section of UNESCO as well as the International Federation of Library Associations were also represented. The new officers elected were as President (for three years), C. Le Maistre; as Vice Presidents, Dr. S. C. Bradford, Prof. Dr. H. R. Kruyt, Dr. P. Bourgeois, J. Cain, and Dr. Charles W. David. Dr. Arne J. Moller was appointed Treasurer and Mr. F. Donker Duyvis, General Secretary.

The Congreso Internacional Americanista de Paris at its twenty-third meeting in 1947 passed several resolutions relating to the safeguarding of minor archives, municipal and private, of the Latin American countries. These resolutions, in summary, state that in such measure as possible, archives of this character should be gathered into national or central archives; that where this is impossible, the respective governments take measures for the preservation of the archives in question; and that each government issue descriptive catalogs as soon as possible.

FOREIGN NEWS

Belgium

C. Tihon has succeeded Joseph Cuvelier as Archiviste Général du Royaume in Brussels.

Cuba

The National Archives of Latin America, by Roscoe R. Hill (Cambridge, Harvard University Press, 1945), has been translated into Spanish and issued as No. 19 in the series *Publicaciones del Archivo Nacional de Cuba.* That Dr. Hill's valuable work can be even more widely used than before is due to the efforts of Capitán Joaquin Llaverías, Director of the National Archives of Cuba, and Dr. Emeterio S. Santovenia, president of the Consejo Director Permanente de los Archivos de la República de Cuba, who writes the foreword to the translation.

India

As a result of the Dominion status attained by India on August 15, 1947 the Imperial Record Department of India has been rechristened the National Archives of India. Since both former British Indian provinces and former princely states are now members of a federal union, the National Archives will play a more important role as a central archives office. When the personnel of the department was divided, as was the personnel of all the former Government of India, between the two successor Dominions, 27 members of the staff were lost to the National Archives, but it is hoped that these positions, most of them in the Preservation, the Records, and the Calendaring Branches, will be restored by the new government.

Netherlands

The *Journal* of the Netherlands society for document reproduction (Nederlands genootschap voor documentreproductie) was made international from its fourth issue (published April 15). Foreign contributions in English, French or German will be welcomed.

South Africa

One of the most important events in the history of the South African Library during the past year has been the recent acquisition of 36 original letters by Lady Anne Barnard which will be on permanent loan to the Library from the South African National Society. Three odd sketches and a small number of letters by Andrew Barnard and other contemporaries, were bound in leather by their previous owner, Sir Leicester Harmsworth, who died in 1937. He purchased them from the sale of the Melville papers preserved at Melville Castle in 1926. The letters, written to Henry Dundas, 1st Viscount Melville, date from soon after Lady Anne's marriage to Andrew Barnard in 1793 until after their return from the Cape in 1802. Twenty-two were actually written at the Cape and of these only 13 were published in *South Africa a Century Ago* edited by W. H. Wilkins in 1901.

The South African National Society has been enabled to purchase the letters through the generosity of Captain W. D. Hare, late M. P. for Mowbray, C. P., to whom the Trustees have expressed their warmest thanks. Captain Hare has established a trust fund on behalf of the National Society which in course of time will enable it to make similar purchases for the benefit of South Africa.

A few years ago the Trustees established a body to be known as "The Friends of the South African Library" which, while receiving distinguished patronage and enthusiastic approval at its inception, never succeeded in progressing very far. Its functions covered such activities as that just carried out by the South African National Society and it is hoped that in future, with an active body such as the latter, another organization will not be needed.

Spain

In an article entitled "El Nuevo Edificio para Archivo, Biblioteca y Museo en Mahón," appearing in *Revista de archivos, bibliotecas y museos*, tomo 53, no. 3, 1947, Director Felix Merino describes the new building uniting three cultural services — archives, library, and museum — on Mahón, the largest city on the island of Menorca. The Ministry of National Education appropriated 100,000 pesetas to convert a mansion dating from 1761, the gift of Sr. Codina Villalonga, into the new edifice.

Venezuela

On the motion of Dr. Ambrosio Perera, the Constituent Assembly has transferred the National Archive from the Ministry of Interior Relations to the Ministry of National Education.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF MEDICAL RECORD LIBRARIANS

Irene M. Connors, Archivist of the American Association of Medical Records Librarians, reported to the Association that she hoped to complete the collection of archives for the first 20 years of the organization and if at all possible to compile the cumulative index for the first two volumes.

Edna K. Huffman, R. R. L., has announced her intention of offering her services as a medical records consultant. Organizer and director of three of the 11 schools approved for the training of medical records librarians and author of the *Manual for Medical Records Librarians*, as well as many articles pertinent to her profession, Mrs. Huffman is Director of the Program in Medical Records Library Science at Northwestern University and a regular lecturer in their Program in Hospital Administration. For the past eight years she has been devoting some time to consulting, in addition to her regular work.

AMERICAN CATHOLIC HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Hoping that other sections of the country will undertake similar projects, the American Catholic Historical Society describes its war records project in Philadelphia in the following paragraphs:

Under the aegis of the historical society, a joint committee containing representatives of the Holy Name Union, the Knights of Columbus, and the Catholic War Veterans and of the American Catholic Historical Society, met on April 29, 1948 and decided to submit the project prepared by the War Records Committee to His Eminence, the Most Reverend Cardinal Archbishop of Philadelphia for his approval and blessing. The committee stood ready to provide the necessary funds for the execution of the plan and to place behind the project the full active cooperation of the membership of their several organizations.

A record of this kind must be obtained on a parochial basis and must con-

tain an account of the contribution of the parish to the war effort and of the individual military service of each parishioner. In order that such a record might be obtained on a diocesan-wide basis, the committee requested a letter from His Eminence to each of the pastors approving the project and requesting their cooperation. On May 28, 1948, His Eminence accordingly ordered the Right Reverend Chancellor of the diocese to send such a letter. Along with this letter, a questionnaire was enclosed to obtain the record of the part played by the parish itself in the war effort. Individual war records cards were sent separately to the pastors to obtain the record of each individual Catholic.

A group of Catholic war veterans have volunteered their services for the assembling and ordering of the material and for the preparation of a summary history of the Catholic war effort which will be published for the joint committee by the historical society. Records to be preserved in the archives of the Society, in fireproof quarters provided by the archdiocese at Saint Charles Seminary, Overbrook.

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

The Committee on A. L. A. Archival and Library Materials continued during 1948 to investigate the ways in which the archives of the Divisions of the American Library Association could be organized and administered. The following general recommendations have been formulated and submitted to each division of the Association:

1. That archives be defined as those pieces of material that reflect the policies and activities of organized bodies and are intended to be kept for record purposes.
2. That A. L. A. should house and service the archives of its divisions, boards, and committees as a part of its responsibility to its membership.
3. That the A. L. A. Headquarters Library be designated as the depository for the archives of the divisions, boards and committees. The Headquarters Librarian shall give a limited amount of service such as attempting to locate special information, but will not undertake any extensive search.
4. That it will be assumed that the material deposited will be open to anyone seeking serious use of it with the understanding that specific items marked confidential will not be released without obtaining permission from the division, board, and committee concerned.
5. That the responsibility for weeding, organizing and forwarding of all archival material to Headquarters shall rest with each division, board and committee. It is suggested that this responsibility be assigned annually to a designated member, such as the retiring secretary or archivist.
6. That archival material, arranged by form (annual reports, minutes, etc.), in folders and clearly marked, be sent to Headquarters by the divisions, boards, and committees.
7. That each division, board, and committee assume the responsibility for seeing that an instruction sheet is sent out at the beginning of each year to the person responsible for the handling of its archives.

Ralph Carruthers, Chairman of the Committee on Photographic Reproduction of Library Materials, reports that since the purposes for which this committee was originally constituted in 1936 have largely been attained, the committee voted to change the name to the Committee on Photoduplication

and Multiple Copying Methods and broaden the scope. The committee felt that there should be an annual survey report for publication in the American Library Association *Bulletin*. These recommendations were accepted and passed by the Council.

The Committee realizes that the lack of a good reading machine in the low-priced field is a serious flaw in the otherwise flourishing microfilm industry. The Committee has, therefore, continued to do some promotional work and has followed with interest the efforts of the Special Libraries Association Committee on Photography along the same lines. There is, however, nothing in the immediate future though at least two companies may finally produce a machine. Ever since the death of the *Journal of Documentary Reproduction*, the Committee has made an effort to revive this important journal. Various suggestions have been made. This year the newly organized American Documentation Institute has expressed an interest in reviving the *Journal* as part of a general journal on documentation. The Committee feels that this is an ideal solution, inasmuch as a journal in the broad field of documentation should be able to pay its way without subsidy. Therefore the Committee has recommended that the American Library Association turn over to the American Documentation Institute all the assets of the old *Journal of Documentary Reproduction*.

SPECIAL LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION

The work of the Archives Committee during 1948 was divided among five members: Miss Emma Boyer, Librarian of the National City Bank of Cleveland; Miss Helen Craig, formerly on the staff of the Library of the Bell Telephone Laboratories; Mr. George Pettengill, Assistant Librarian, Franklin Institute; Miss Wilma Troxell, Librarian, Library of Medical Sciences, University of Illinois; and Mrs. Abigail Hausdorfer, Chief Librarian, Pennsylvania Area College Centers, Area I, Chairman.

Miss Boyer reports that the preliminary work on the Chronology of the Special Libraries Association to be printed as a part of the 40th anniversary number of *Special Libraries* has been completed and should be in final form by fall. Miss Agnes Hansen and Miss Ella Tallman have assisted her.

During the year Miss Craig has collected material to fill in files and add to the archival material at Headquarters.

Mr. Pettengill has been preparing manuals on the care of archives in chapters and groups. In order to learn present practices and to find out how archivists think material should be handled, Mr. Pettingill sent out a questionnaire to all chapters and groups. In the meantime the Committee was asked to supply, by November 15, 1947, a "concise statement of what records should be kept and how and where they should be preserved."

Since Mr. Pettingill and the chairman feel that the more detailed manuals which had been under consideration for several years by the Committee will still be useful, he is continuing the study. When these manuals are completed, they will be deposited at Headquarters and will be available for loan.

CONNECTICUT

The microfilming project of the Genealogical Society of Salt Lake City, Utah, whereby the land and probate records of the Connecticut towns are being copied made very good progress during the year 1948. Slightly more than half the towns of the State have now been copied by Mr. Hughes, the operator, and the Connecticut State Library has received through December 749 reels of positive film covering 49 of the towns.

This project was the subject of an article in the genealogical department of the *Church News* of Salt Lake City for December 22. This article begins as follows: "Permission granted to copy State Records. . . . Choice microfilm news of the whole year is the official permission just received to copy the consolidated index to vital records of Connecticut, church records and cemetery inscriptions, an aggregation of records totaling probably three million cards." In view of the growing progress made in microfilming land and probate records, official permission was granted for the copying of the State Library Records.

FLORIDA

The library of the Florida Historical Society has recently received a large and exceedingly valuable gift from Mrs. James Alexander Robertson, being the part of Dr. Robertson's library relating to Florida, including manuscripts of all kinds and maps. Dr. Robertson was one of the foremost historians of Florida, his greatest contribution being as editor and contributor to the series of volumes published by the Florida State Historical Society under the leadership and support of Dr. John B. Stetson, Jr.

Included in the gift are several unpublished manuscripts, original documents, and a great number of photostats and transcripts, mainly from foreign archives. As these were selected by Dr. Robertson for their relation to Florida history, their value to the library is evident. One notable unpublished manuscript is *Life in Camp and Field*, a journal of the Seminole War, by J. Rhett Motte of the Medical Corps, U. S. Army. Another is *Banking in Florida* by D. Y. Thomas.

There are a great number of photostats and typed transcripts from the Spanish archives, especially Florida documents from Archivo General de Indias, including cedulas, memorials, and various reports from the colonial government, including the expedition of 1742 against Charleston. The Public Record Office in London contributes documents relating to British Florida, and from the British Museum come complete photostats of De Brahm's noteworthy *Survey of the Southern District of North America.* From the Clements Library are more than 100 pages from the papers of the Earl of Shelburne.

Prints and portraits are numerous, including Laudonniere and Hawkins. There are more than 200 reproductions of maps of all periods.

The 47th annual meeting of the Society will be held at the McAllister Hotel, Miami, Florida, on April 8 and 9, where it will be the guest of the Historical Association of Southern Florida.

LOUISIANA

Recent acquisitions by the Department of Archives of Louisiana State University consist of 34 private manuscript collections of approximately 26,000 items. The collections pertain to or reflect chiefly sugar and cotton plantation operation and management, and include 1,908 items of personal business papers of the Charles L. Mathews family of Terrebonne and West Feliciana Parishes, 1797-1902; 20,000 items and 38 volumes of personal and business papers of Albert A. Batchelor and family, Pointe Coupee Parish, 1856-1930; 611 items of business and legal papers of Benjamin Kendrick, East Feliciana Parish, 1807-94; two ledgers of the Ventress Brothers, Pointe Coupee Parish, 1900-01; 982 items and 10 volumes of personal and business papers of three generations of the Tauzin family, Natchitoches Parish, 1834-1944; 30 items of additional papers of John N. Evans and family of Pinckneyville, Mississippi, and West Feliciana Parish, 1819-90; a photographic copy of an account book of Richard E. Butler, Terrebonne Parish, 1842-69; three cashbooks and an invoice book of Lane W. Brandon, Pointe Coupee Parish, 1880-88. Other collections include 818 items and 11 volumes of papers of Mrs. Mary W. Pugh, Lafourche Parish, pertaining to family and plantation matters, 1882-1925; a daybook of T. McCrindell, commission merchant of West Feliciana Parish, giving charges for plantation supplies and services, 1851-55; a daybook of R. Clendennen, retail meat dealer of West Feliciana Parish, 1867; a daybook and six items of related papers of S. A. Frier, merchant and railway freight agent of West Feliciana Parish, 1896-98; six account books of Goddard and Hall, commission merchants of New Orleans, 1892-96; 60 items of letters and related materials of the Terry family, Jefferson County, Mississippi, and the Jefferies family, Claiborne County, Mississippi, concerning family and plantation matters, 1766, 1795, 1821-96; 87 items of official papers of Captain N. A. Birge, C. S. A., quartermaster and agent for the impressment of cotton in the Trans-Mississippi Department under General E. Kirby Smith, 1860-65; a microfilm copy of a Civil War diary of Private Florison D. Pitts, U. S. A., of service chiefly in Louisiana and Mississippi; 13 items of professional papers relating to Dr. Frederick H. Knapp, dentist, of Baltimore, Natchez, Memphis and New Orleans, 1836-39; a ledger of the F. D. Docks Company for repairs and related services of vessels and Mississippi River boats, 1841-56; a typewritten copy of a diary of Erastus F. Beadle of Buffalo, N. Y., of a journey to Nebraska, 1857; a scrapbook of materials pertaining to the government and public administration of New Orleans, 1813-65; typewritten and photostatic copies of 43 items of papers of Governor Bernardo de Galvez concerning civil and military matters in Spanish West Florida (Louisiana), ca. 1775-1804; 11 letters of Private William H. Ker, C. S. A., of Natchez, Mississippi, 1861-64; Valle J. Rozier scrapbook of materials relating to Reconstruction Louisiana, 1870-1901; and 627 items and 8 volumes of business papers of Theodule Verret, St. Tammany and Orleans

Parishes, pertaining to lumbering, property management and public education matters, 1804-94.

MARYLAND

Dr. Harry Ammon, of Washington, D. C., was recently appointed Librarian of the Maryland Historical Society and on August 2 assumed his new duties. Educated at Georgetown University and the University of Virginia, he has taught for several years. In 1945-47 he was at Tulane University and last year at Sweet Briar College. He received the Ph.D. degree in history last June from the University of Virginia. In addition to the scholarly equipment which Dr. Ammon brings to his task, he has had considerable experience in library techniques at Charlottesville where he was employed on a part time basis in the Alderman Library.

The heavy increase in the calls on the library have made necessary this division of the duties formerly performed by the Director who will now be free to further the Society's services to the community in other directions, to give closer attention to business affairs, to the Gallery and to the collection of needed materials of all kinds.

Mr. Frank F. White, Jr., who has worked in the library for the last 12 months as general assistant and indexer, in July accepted a position as civilian educational assistant to the Maryland Military District, Second Army. Miss Eugenia Calvert Holland joined the library staff in July.

A volume containing drafts of the principal poems and prose pieces of Francis Scott Key has been presented by Mrs. Edward Carrington Venable, great granddaughter of the poet. The book was compiled by Charles Howard, son of Colonel John Eager Howard and son-in-law of Key, in whose home on Mt. Vernon Place, now the site of the Mt. Vernon Place Methodist Church, the latter died in 1843.

The volume was among the papers of the late Charles Morris Howard. It bears the autograph of the older Charles Howard and an inscription on the fly leaf:

> The following compositions of the late F. S. Key were inserted in this book as copies of them were met with. For this reason they are not arranged in any order, either of dates, where these are known, or classification according to the subjects of them.

Many of the poems are in the handwriting of Mr. Charles Howard, while others appear to have been written by another copyist. It is evident that Key did not leave an approved draft of his writings. It may be surmised that this volume was used by the Rev. Henry V. D. Johns of Baltimore (later Bishop Johns) in preparing the first printed edition of Key's work, which appeared in 1857. There is, however, in this book a striking textual variation from the accepted words in the version of "The Star Spangled Banner." In the first stanza, line 3, the original manuscript owned by the Walters Gallery, has the words ". . . whose broad stripes and bright stars through the perilous fight." The same words occur in the first printed edition and in most of the early sheet

music editions. Mr. Howard's book gives the last words of the line as ". . . through the clouds of the fight."

Other differences from the printed versions occur, especially where the names of persons to whom poems are dedicated have been included. The "Song" in which the phrase "star-spangled flag" occurs, written some years before the anthem and in the same meter, is among the poems. The book also contains the full text of Justice Taney's letter to Mr. Charles Howard, in which the circumstances of the writing of the national anthem are related. Owing to its provenance, the contents of this book must take high rank for textual authenticity unless individual originals in Key's handwriting come to light. The book is a prized addition to the treasure of the Society's library.

The Maryland Hall of Records reports that the microfilm project in Maryland, last reported in THE AMERICAN ARCHIVIST, January 1948, has now been nearly completed. The Utah Genealogical Society has microfilmed all records up to 1850 in the twenty-three counties of the State; only the records of Baltimore City remain to be done.

Bulletin No. 8, *Index Holdings*, is now ready for distribution, and editorial work on the fourth calendar of Maryland State Papers has begun under the supervision of Roger Thomas, assistant archivist. The Hall of Records collection, known as the *Red Books*, contains over 4,900 items. Immediate publication is not expected.

Under a grant from the Littleton-Griswold Fund and a subsidy from the Hall of Records, the American Historical Society has undertaken publication of *Prince George's County Deeds, Liber A*. The editor is Philip A. Crowl, assistant professor of history at Princeton University. It is hoped that the volume will go to press July 1, 1949.

The Walters Art Gallery and Baltimore Museum of Art presented an exhibit of nearly 250 illuminated manuscripts beginning January 28 at the Museum. According to the directors, no such comprehensive showing of fine illuminated books of the Middle Ages and the Renaissance had ever been held in the United States.

MASSACHUSETTS

Three years ago the Harvard University Archives commenced work on a reorganization of its records relating to individual students. The idea is to gather into one folder the various documents (with some exceptions) relating to each student in his dealings with the different college offices. This radical departure from orthodox archival procedure was adopted, after some hesitation, on the grounds that it would be of enormous advantage to future workers in the fields of biographical and genealogical research. Indeed, if the material were left in the separate files, nearly twenty in number, which are now being combined, it is scarcely too much to say that much of it would be unavailable to scholars. The foundation of the new file is the series of "Student Folders" established in the office of the Assistant Dean in Charge of Records. This contains the academic and disciplinary records of students in Harvard

College as far back as the 1890's. Into it are being filed such documents as applications for admission and for scholarships, high school record cards, entrance examination records, letters of recommendation, and records of placement after graduation. Some files — registration cards, for example — have not been added because thought more useful in their present state. The new file will include, in one alphabetical series, the records of students in Harvard College, the Lawrence Scientific School (abolished in 1906), and the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, but not of members of the professional schools. The work has progressed as far as the letter "H."

Robert W. Lovett, Senior Assistant in the University Archives, has been loaned to the Baker Library of the Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration for three years to take charge of business manuscripts and of the archives of the Business School.

MICHIGAN

A committee invited by the Michigan Historical Commission to survey its facilities for caring for the records in its custody has issued a report which should interest the people of Michigan in insisting on improvement. According to the committee, which consists of Mr. Willard C. Wichers, president of the Historical Society of Michigan as chairman, Dr. James O. Knauss, head of the history department at Western Michigan College of Education, and Dr. Madison Kuhn, professor of history at Michigan State College, the Commission is not fulfilling its responsibilities as set forth by law with respect to the state records in the following respects:

Much of the archival material now in the custody of the Commission is stored in a loft on M floor of the State Office Building where there is inadequate protection from fire. Nor is there proper protection in that place from dust, heat, and dryness. Deterioration of ink and paper seems inevitable unless changes are made.

Classification and indexing was apparently abandoned many years ago. While this is naturally a task of many years it should go on constantly and consistently.

None of the material is really available for use. Room 641 is too crowded with the staff of the commission to permit state employees or the general public to examine papers stored there; while the enclosure on M floor is too hot, dusty, dark, and crowded to encourage proper investigation.

Much of the space available on M floor is now occupied by printed materials that the State Library has in quantity. We would encourage the present policy of transferring these printed items to other depositories.

The above conclusions come, we are sure, as no surprise to the Michigan Historical Commission, which has struggled for many years to improve the situation — or at least to prevent its deterioration. As a committee we would suggest the following:

The transfer of all the manuscript materials on M floor to some other fireproof space where it may be accessible to the public and to the other departments of the state government. The latter should be encouraged to deposit their less-used archives with the commission, in the expectation of being able to consult them when needed.

The employment of a records administrator who would classify, index, and protect the present holdings and accept from state and local agencies such of their valuable records as they may no longer wish to retain.

The addition of space to permit the proper administration of records.

A revision of the present law, making it illegal for a governmental agency to destroy a record until a representative of the Michigan Historical Commission has determined that the record need not be preserved.

That the commission seek the advice of experienced archivists and librarians in determining specific policies.

As a result of this report the Michigan Historical Commission has reiterated its request of the legislature of a records administrator. It has also established the following committee to investigate further the records situation in the state of Michigan, in accordance with the last recommendation of the committee headed by Mr. Wichers: Mrs. Elleine H. Stones, chief of the Burton Historical Collection; Judge Ira W. Jayne, of the Circuit Court, Detroit; Dr. Lewis G. Vander Velde, director of the Michigan Historical Collections; Mr. William A. Vawter III, of Benton Harbor; Mr. Jackson Towne, librarian of the Michigan State College Library; and Mr. Colton Storm of the William L. Clements Library.

Important items received by the Michigan Historical Collections during the past few months include: the papers of the late Charles A. Weissert, a member of the State Historical Commission; the Civil War diary of William E. Limbocker; a student diary of Vincent Lovell, 1870; student letters of Horatio W. Shaw, 1845-1848; *The Agate*, a manuscript newspaper issued at Fort Wilkins, Keweenaw Peninsula, April 1, 1846, which contains a water color painting of the Fort; the *Bark Shanty Times*, a manuscript newspaper of Port Sanilac, 1857-1858; records of the First Presbyterian Church of Buchanan, 1847-1925; records of the Pennfield District Schools, Calhoun County, 1849-1940; two account books of Hale and Smith, Grass Lake, 1841; seven letters of Henry P. Tappan, former president of the University, to Charles Palmer, a regent, 1853-1878; papers of James C. Watson, astronomer, including two letter press books, 1858-1873, journals of a trip to the Near East and the Far East, 1874-1875, and extensive correspondence with American and foreign astronomers; and the records of the Wisconsin Land and Lumber Company, Hermansville, Michigan, 1872-1930, consisting of 642 volumes.

MINNESOTA

Dr. Harold Dean Cater became secretary and superintendent of the Minnesota Historical Society on August 15, 1948, succeeding Dr. Carlton C. Qualey. Born in Syracuse, New York, he was graduated from Syracuse University in 1933 and took a Ph.D. degree from Columbia University. Since 1946 he has been in the historical division of the War Department Special Staff.

A former teacher of history in New York State high schools and at George Washington University, Dr. Cater is also the author of numerous articles and reviews in historical and literary periodicals and of two books. His *Henry Adams and His Friends*, a collection of unpublished letters edited with a biographical introduction, appeared last year.

MISSOURI

The Western Historical Manuscripts Collection of the University of Missouri has recently acquired the personal papers of Chester C. Davis, administrator of Agricultural Adjustment Act from December 1933 to June 1936, and the gubernatorial papers of Guy Park, governor of Missouri from 1933 to 1937. Letters written by George Graham Vest, Missouri Senator from 1878 to 1902, and papers of Dr. James W. Connaway, eminent veterinarian of the University of Missouri, have been added to the collections. Business papers added include the papers of the Missouri Lumber and Mining Company of Grandin, Missouri, a large collection recording the company's activities from the late 1800's until the late 1920's. The papers include general correspondence, record books on labor, production, and sales, and various business reports. The papers of the Ozark Land and Lumber Company of Winona, Missouri, include minutes of stockholders meetings, annual business reports, balance sheets, and record books from the 1880's to recent days.

Other recent acquisitions of the Western Historical Manuscripts Collection of the University of Missouri include the papers of C. Jasper Bell, a Congressman from 1935 through 1948, who served as chairman of a committee to investigate old age pension organizations in the 74th Congress and chairman of the Committee on Insular Affairs in the 79th Congress; the William C. Cole papers, containing Representative Cole's correspondence during the 78th and 79th Congress; a part of Representative Marion T. Bennett's correspondence during the 78th, 79th, and 80th Congresses; radio addresses and some other papers of Representative Arnold, who was in the 78th, 79th, and 80th Congresses; and the papers of Zenophon Caverno, an agricultural leader in the 1930's, from southeast Missouri. Additional papers of Dr. John Sappington, a pioneer Missouri doctor, have been received. More than 500 World War II letters have been added to the Ted Malone Collection of war letters.

Charles E. Peterson, former president of the St. Louis Historical Documents Foundation, has left Missouri for Richmond, Virginia, where he will be Regional Architect for Region One of the National Park Service. John Francis McDermott succeeds Mr. Peterson as president of the foundation.

NEBRASKA

During 1948 the Nebraska State Historical Society received the non-current records of the Secretary of State and the Nebraska State Superintendent of Public Instruction. The bulk of both acquisitions consists of correspondence of the two departments.

Sixty-six prints and seven negatives received as gifts, and two large albums from Harold Hulfish, Custodian of the Capitol, show various stages of the construction of the State Capitol and its architectural features. Another unusual acquisition is that of 260 original cartoons by the late Guy R. Spencer, cartoonist for the Omaha *World-Herald* from 1923 to 1938.

NEVADA

The Nevada State Historical Society has added to its manuscript file copies of documents pertaining to Nevada Territory in the Robert Todd Lincoln collection of Abraham Lincoln papers in the Library of Congress.

NEW JERSEY

Princeton University Library has acquired a manuscript, the Board of Trade's "Proposals with regard to the Disturbances in His Majesty's Province of New Jersey," with a covering letter of July 28, 1749 addressed to Henry Pelham and signed by the Earl of Halifax, John Pitt, James Grenville, Viscount Dupplin and Charles Townshend. After a short and pungent analysis of the causes of the situation, the "Proposals" are set forth, with a brief account of Bacon's "Rebellion in Virginia in 1675" to serve as an analogy. This important document, formerly in the famous library of the late Sir R. Leicester Harmsworth, was purchased with general library funds.

Of great historical and political interest is the gift of Charles L. Swem, former secretary to Woodrow Wilson. Mr. Swem has presented to the Library his own shorthand notebooks covering the period from Wilson's campaign of 1912 to March, 1921. There are fifty-three notebooks containing speeches, letters, interviews, etc., dated from March 5, 1911 to March 1, 1921; six notebooks on the 1912 campaign; nine of speeches and interviews from April 7, 1913 to June 22, 1915; one on the European trips of 1913 and 1919; and four on the Pacific coast trip alone, September 3-25, 1919; together with some supplementary material in the form of loose miscellaneous shorthand notes. This unique group forms an invaluable addition to the Woodrow Wilson collection and the transcription of its contents will be eagerly anticipated.

NEW YORK

The Manuscript Division of the New York Public Library announces the receipt of two noteworthy accessions during 1948. The first one is concerned with a collection, the second with a single item, a "rarity." By the arrival of a second large shipment in the spring of 1948, the major body of Albert Shaw papers came into the Library's custody. The collection is a record of a distinguished publicist dating back to his student days in the 1880's at Grinnell College and at Johns Hopkins University. Dr. Shaw made the *Review of Reviews* the pre-eminent publication in this country on public affairs, international relations and world events for a period of thirty years from its beginning in 1891; his contacts were wide and influential and his correspondence represents the increasing involvement of the United States in happenings around the globe.

The second item, the "rarity," was announced in the press of December 24 as a Christmas gift from one of the Library's trustees; it is one of the two originally engrossed and signed copies of "The Olive Branch Petition." This represents the last formal effort by the American colonists, through their dele-

gates to the second Continental Congress, in July 1775, to avoid the final break-away from Britain.

Two members of the staff of the Manuscript Division have retired after long years of service. Wilmer Ross Leech came to the Division immediately after its establishment in late 1914; his previous experience was in Albany and Washington where he began his career in the Division of Manuscripts of the Library of Congress. Miss Mabel C. Weaks came to the New York Public Library in 1921 after a period of service in the Wisconsin Historical Society. Miss Janet McNiece has been appointed as an assistant; she was formerly employed by the Maryland Hall of Records and the National Archives.

NORTH CAROLINA

E. Graham Roberts, a doctoral candidate at the University of Virginia, has been appointed curator of manuscripts at the Duke University Library, and Mattie Russell, formerly of Mars Hill College, has joined the staff as assistant in the Manuscripts Division.

OHIO

During the latter part of 1948, the Ohio State Archaeological and Historical Society Library acquired the following notable collections: Papers of Arthur Lovett Garford, Progressive candidate for governor of Ohio in 1912, and Elyria, Ohio, industrialist, 15 cartons; sixteen letters of Warren G. Harding, some to Myron T. Herrick, and a holograph five page editorial; business accounts in New York and South Bass Island, Ohio, of Joseph de Rivera St. Jurgo, one of the first to plant vineyards on the Lake Erie Islands, 12 volumes, 1860 to 1880; Winthrop Sargent's diary, April 29 to June 30, 1791, 27 pages, describing Indian attacks and his journey to Cincinnati; also Sargent's account, "Information from Mr. Maya," 12 pages, describing the rivers and Indians in Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois, circa 1791 or 1792; Dr. Wilbur H. Siebert's collection on the American Loyalists, consisting of 392 books, around 300 periodicals and pamphlets, and 30 manuscript items, chiefly from Shelburne, Nova Scotia, 1770 to 1790, and 19 letter files of Siebert's notes on the Tories.

Other additions to the Library's manuscript collections include: Indianapolis and Cincinnati Railroad papers, 1858-1869, 9 volumes; 4 letters and a certificate of appointment from Warren G. Harding to Myron T. Herrick, 1916-1922; James Kilbourn's manuscript map of land near Worthington, Ohio, 1809; Ripley Antislavery Society, Ripley, Ohio, Constitution, membership and minutes, 1835-1848; the Society of Separatists of Zoar, account books, 1840-1860, 47 volumes; papers of the Leffel Water Wheel and Engine Co., Springfield, Ohio, 1855-1890, 2 boxes; and an 83 page, typed copy of "Life of Rev. John Rankin, written by himself in his eightieth year."

Museum Echoes, December 1948, carried the following news item:

The Ohio State Archaeological and Historical Society, the Graduate School of Ohio State University, and the Provincial Elders' Conference of the Moravian Church in America are cooperating in a project for the publication, both in the original German and in an English translation, of selected documents pertaining to the Moravian Indian missions in the state of Ohio.

The first Moravian mission in Ohio was established at Schoenbrunn in 1772 by Christian Indians from Lawrence and Bradford counties in Pennsylvania under the leadership of David Zeisberger, John Heckewelder and John Ettwein, missionaries of the Moravian Church.

Subsequent migrations and conversions among the friendly Delawares and Mingos led to the establishment of other mission villages; Gnadenbutten in 1772, Lichtenau in 1776, New Shoenbrunn in 1779, and Salem in 1780. During the Revolutionary and Indian wars the Moravian Indians remained neutral and hence were in a critical position. This situation caused them to move to the Sandusky Valley and later in turn to Michigan, to Cuyahoga County, and to the Thames River in Ontario. The Moravian Church continued to work for the return of the towns on the Tuscarawas to the missions. In 1796 Congress granted the "Society of the United Brethren for Propagating the Gospel among the Heathen" in trust for the Christian Indians three large tracts of land in the Tuscarawas Valley. Zeisberger and some of the Indians returned from Fairfield (Ontario) to the Tuscarawas and established the village of Goshen in 1798. Other villages were established and prospered for a time but began to decline about 1808. The abandonment of Goshen in 1824 brought the mission settlements to a conclusion.

The documents relating to the missions comprise diaries or reports of each congregation sent by the missionaries to the headquarters of the Moravian Church at Bethlehem, Pa., journals, letters, maps, legal documents, and other papers. Dr. August C. Mahr, professor of German of the Ohio State University and supervisor of the project, has spent some time in the archives of the Moravian Church at Bethlehem, selecting the more important documents for photographic reproduction. These documents will be edited, translated and prepared for publication by Dr. Mahr, with the assistance of graduate students of the university working under his supervision. In connection with this work, a seminar in the interpretation and editing of original German documents will be offered for the first time by Dr. Mahr during the winter quarter of the current school year. The resulting volumes will be published under the imprint of the society.

The project is administered on behalf of the society by Erwin C. Zepp, director, and Dr. James H. Rodabaugh, research associate and editor, and on behalf of the university by N. Paul Hudson, dean of the graduate school, Prof. Harold Grimm of the department of history, and Dr. Bernhard Blume and Dr. Mahr of the department of German. Officials of the church who have approved the undertaking and are cooperating in making the records available, are the Reverend F. P. Stocker, president, and the Right Reverend Kenneth G. Mamilton, vice president and recording secretary of the Provincial Elders' Conference of the Moravian Church, and the Right Reverend S. H. Gapp, archivist of the church.

The society considers the publication of the Moravian documents of great importance to every student of the American revolution in the West and of immigrant groups in the United States, as well as of inestimable value to historians of the preterritorial history of the state. It will prove highly significant also for research scholars in other fields, including the ethnology and anthropology of the American Indian, economics, regional geography, German language and literature, religious thought, and church history.

Additions to the manuscripts division of the Hayes Memorial Library, Fremont, Ohio, include the following: twelve holograph letters of President Rutherford B. Hayes to George W. Allen, Nov. 9, 1878, William H. Crook, Aug. 5, 1888, James R. Hawley, Nov. 28, 1877, George W. Jones, July 14, 1876, Mrs. Martha J. Lamb, Aug. 19, 1889, Dr. L. D. McCabe, Dec. 19, 1877, Gov. B. F. Potts, June 30, 1876, Tyler Rutherford, Jan. 23, 1880, Laura Rosamond White, July 22, 1890, Alex Williamson, Mar. 8, 1878, James Grant Wilson, Mar. 16, 1880, and a Civil War letter, Jan. 2, 1862; two holograph letters of Mrs. Lucy Webb Hayes to Laura Platt Mitchell, June 25, 1881, and to Dr. L. D. McCabe, Dec. 13, 1881; and an autographed place card of the Hayes' silver wedding anniversary dinner in the White House, Dec. 30, 1877.

Other manuscripts added were: George William Curtis collection, 99 letters (Sept. 1877-Dec. 1884), 26 pamphlets and 40 newspaper clippings on election of 1884; 3 letters (1878-1895) of George W. McCrary to Gen. A. McD. Cook, Charles Devens, and Donn Piatt; 7 letters and a petition to President Hayes from Richard H. Collins, Louisville, Ky., W. H. Armstrong, Minn., J. S. Jogens, St. Paul, Minn., R. R. Nelson, Minn., Benjamin C. Barron, Baltimore, Md., J. Norcross, Atlanta, Ga., and the wholesale merchants, manufacturers, and business men of Minneapolis, Minn. Miscellaneous manuscripts were D. M. Key to A. D. Hazen, Nov. 26, 1877; W. K. Rogers, Hayes' private secretary, to James M. Dalzell, Caldwell, O., Aug. 20, 1877; Alex. R. Shepherd, Washington, D. C., to Maj. S. E. Faunce, Feb. 27, 1877, and Benjamin G. Lossing to Adam Lee, Apr. 26, 1880. Microfilm and photostatic copies of other sources were added to the manuscripts division through the courtesy of various private owners and historical societies.

OKLAHOMA

Quarters have been provided in the Library Building for the Oklahoma University Archives. The same equipment as that in use in the National Archives has been installed.

At present in addition to the Archivist, Gaston Litton, and his secretary there are only student assistants, but the budget calls for two professional assistants, positions as yet unfilled.

The collection falls into three categories: (1) Official archives of the University (Papers of the first two presidents have already been accessioned); (2) Memorabilia of the university — published accounts, unofficial references, etc.; and (3) Regional materials.

To aid in developing the third category listed above, fellowships are being awarded for field work under a Rockefeller Foundation grant. Two were awarded for work last August, and the recipients will continue their work this coming summer. On March 1st the distinguished writer Miss Alice Marriott, author of *The Ten Grandmothers*, *Maria, The Potter of San Ildefonso*, and books for children, joined the Archives as a fellow to aid in this program.

OREGON

David C. Duniway, Oregon State Archivist, has announced the appointment of Herbert J. Salisbury as Archival Assistant. Mr. Salisbury has served as Secretary to the Archivist since January, 1947. Effective July 1, 1948, George B. Sanders, a graduate of Willamette University, was reappointed Secretary to the Archivist. Mr. Sanders saw service in the Army during the war and for six months in 1946 served as Secretary to the Archivist.

During 1948, the Oregon State Archives received some 21 accessions of public records. One of the major record groups received was the files of the Executive Secretary of the defunct Capitol Reconstruction Commission, 1935-1940, which directed the construction of Oregon's modern Capitol and the State Library Building, including minutes, correspondence, specifications, contracts, plans, construction documents and fiscal records. Another major group of economic importance was the annual reports to the State Insurance Commissioner from insurance companies doing business in Oregon, 1907-1937. Because of their bulk and the repetitious character of much of the basic information, reports from states outside of the west have been preserved only for every fifth year from 1907-1937. Meanwhile a general policy in relation to the preservation of the records of the Insurance Commissioner has been developed with the assistance of Prof. S. S. Huebner of the Wharton School of Finance and Commerce at the University of Pennsylvania and other state archivists. Accession of lesser scope include records of the Portland Office of the Oregon Employment Service, covering the period at the end of the war and the readjustment of employment; audit reports of the accounts of governmental agencies in Oregon, state and local, submitted to the Governor; the personnel files of the former Merit System Council, 1938-1946, predecessor of the State Civil Service Commission; and selected records of the State Banking Department relating to the liquidation of state banks, 1923-1941, the bulk of which are restricted.

Private papers accessioned during the year include a collection of family papers from Stuart Bush of Salem, containing important family and personal correspondence of Asahel Bush, Democratic political figure in Oregon from 1850-1912; the literary manuscripts of Claude and Estelle Bush Thayer; Bush and Thayer family photographs and negatives; business papers of banking and dairy interests in Tillamook, Oregon; the letters of Eugenia Zeiber, later Mrs. Asahel Bush, including correspondence from the Bethlehem Seminary, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, 1849-1850, her plains journal of 1851, and a book of pressed flowers which she collected as she crossed the plains. The literary rights to the Thayer manuscripts have been vested in the Oregon State Library by the donor.

Other gifts to the State Archives in 1948 include individual photographs illustrative of the history of Oregon from ex-Governor Oswald West, George B. Abdill of Dayton, Oregon, Mrs. W. B. Johnson of Salem and others; the correspondence of H. D. Trover, Salem photographer, from Harry W. Cronise; and the correspondence of William Steusloff as a member of the Board

of Sheep Examiners, 1907-1908, the gift of his son, Claude Steusloff of Salem.

The Oregon State Archives has also obtained for the State Library the fiscal records of the Capital Lumbering Company of Salem, 1868-1914, its predecessors, Moores and McDonald, 1853-1858, J. H. and I. R. Moores, 1858-1869, Roorke, Witten and Miller, 1869, Moores Miller and Co., proprietors of the South Salem Steam Flour and Lumbering Mills, 1870-1876, and Forsyth, Patty and Co., 1866-1868. With the collection there were also received some personal papers of Albert N. Moores, 1885-1893 and 1919-1927, and fiscal records of Moores and Wrightman, real estate and insurance brokers in Salem, 1919-1934. An inventory is being prepared for publication.

SOUTH DAKOTA

The South Dakota Historical Society has received a valuable item of historical interest in a payroll of the tribe of Yankton Indians for the year 1864. The payroll breaks down each band of the Yankton Indians by name, giving the head of the family and the number of other persons, as for example: Struck-by-the-Ree, one man, six women, one girl, a total of eight.

Since there was considerable scandal about the payments made the Indians at that time, of particular interest are personal notations on the back of one sheet tending to show that the agent may have done rather well by himself on the payroll. The Society acquired the item from the daughter of one of the missionaries to the Indians.

VIRGINIA

The research council of the Richmond Area University Center has approved for financial aid 13 projects in the humanities and social sciences that are being undertaken by various members of the faculties of the institutions that are affiliated with the university center. Two of the grants go to the Division of Rare Books and Manuscripts, University of Virginia, one of which is to be used toward the publication of "The Jefferson Papers of the University of Virginia," and the other to assist in preparing "A Checklist of the Writings of John Randolph of Roanoke."

HAWAII

The Hawaii War Records Depository, now more interested in publication than collecting, reorganized its staff on August 1, 1947 and selected Miss Gwenfread Allen, graduate of the University of Hawaii and a twenty-year resident of the territory, as author of a short, semi-popular history of Hawaii in World War II. Mr. Lloyd Lee, a former graduate student in sociology, was engaged as Miss Allen's research assistant, with the special duty during his first year of service to continue work already begun on documentation for a memorial volume to those men of Hawaii who died in the service of the United States during the war.

Both volumes will probably be issued by the University of Hawaii Press.